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Calls for Joe to go echo at Penn St.

Back page



Schwarzenegger lauds 'true action heroes' at Marine Corps Ball

Page 5



Holiday flicks preview

Scene magazine

Penn State coach Joe Paterno, right

Volume 63, No. 211 © EPSS 2004 J

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2004

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PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFFREY M. HARRIS FOR THE PHOTOFEST PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

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Military's pay system to get major overhaul

Replacing '60s-era computer programs expected to fix problems Page 7

Currency crunch

Some Pacific troops feel financial pinch, most unfazed about dollar's continued decline to the yen

Page 3

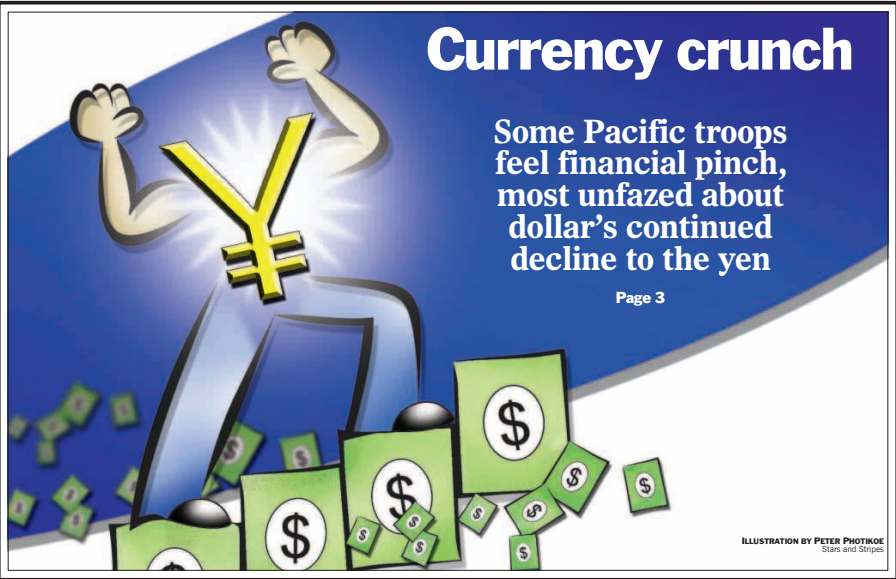


ILLUSTRATION BY PETER PHOTIKOE
Stars and Stripes

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Scene on Tuesday

Taiwan's big breakfasts



Kate Winslet

Sunday

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TODAY IN STRIPES

Abby, Annie's Mailbox.....	28
American Roundup	24-25
Classified	32-35
Comics.....	Sunday Comics
Horoscope	28
Letters	22
Opinion	23
Parade	29
Sports	38-48
TV/Radio listings	30-31
Weather	36
Your Money	26

News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Flight 587 memorial: Hundreds of people, many weeping and some holding photos of lost loved ones, stood under umbrellas Friday in the quiet Queens neighborhood where Flight 587 crashed 26 years ago.

Altogether, 365 people died when American Airlines Flight 587 went down in residential Belle Harbor on Nov. 12, 2001, just after the jet took off from Kennedy Airport on its way to the Dominican Republic.

At the ceremony, Mayor Michael Bloomberg announced plans for a permanent memorial about 15 blocks from the crash site.

Hurricanes damage: The number of Floridians left homeless by hurricanes is growing by as much as 100 people per day three months after the first of four storms hit the state, a Federal Emergency Management Agency official said.

Thousands of hurricane victims may be still living in damaged homes, with friends and family, in cars and even sheds, said Brad Gair, FEMA deputy coordinating officer in Orlando.

Nearly 3,100 hurricane victims were on a FEMA waiting list for temporary housing assistance as of Thursday. But officials said they've had to scramble to accommodate more people chased from their storm-damaged dwellings by mold and other previously undetected problems, Gair said.

"It is the largest operation of this type that we've done so we are building a system on the go to handle it," Gair said Thursday.

Federal court nominations: Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist on Thursday urged Democrats to stop blocking President Bush's federal court nominees and hinted that he may try to change Senate rules to thwart their delaying tactics.

The Democrats' ability to stall White House picks for the federal bench was one of the most contentious issues of Bush's first term.

Despite the GOP majority in the Senate, Democrats used the threat of a filibuster to block 19 of Bush's nominees to federal appeals courts.

The Senate did confirm more than 200 of the president's choices.



Frist

Business

Delta pay cuts: The battered shares of Delta Air Lines Inc. raged 8 percent Friday after its pilots agreed to pay cuts to try to help the ailing carrier escape bankruptcy, but their new contract offers no guarantees for the company's future.

Still, analysts call the pilots' assent to a 32.5 percent pay cut Thursday a linchpin in the struggle to turn Delta around.

Delta shares gained 49 cents to trade at \$67.78 late morning on the New York Stock Exchange.

Almost 80 percent of Delta's 7,000 pilots supported a new contract that will cut their pay by 32.5 percent and skip raises for the next five years. The concessions, which begin Dec. 1, will save Delta \$1 billion yearly and were crucial as Delta attempts to persuade creditors to restructure more than \$20 billion in debt.

World

South Korean navy: The South Korean navy has begun building its first destroyer equipped with a state-of-the-art Aegis system for surveillance, the Defense Ministry said Thursday.

South Korea plans to build three Aegis destroyers by 2012 to boost its defense against communist North Korea.

South Korea's Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. started building the first 7,000-ton class "KDX-III" destroyer, the navy said in a statement. The navy hopes to deploy the warship by 2008.

Made by Lockheed Martin of the United States, the Aegis system collects three-dimensional information for anti-aircraft, anti-ship and anti-submarine defense by integrating highly efficient radar and computer systems.

The latest project comes amid security concerns over North Korea's nuclear weapons program.

Efforts are underway to reopen six-party nuclear talks aimed at ending North Korea's nuclear ambitions, but a date for the next round of talks has yet to be set.

Lindh murder trial: Prosecutors on Friday told a panel of Supreme Court judges that there was "considerable agreement" among medical experts that the man who confessed to killing Foreign Minister Anna Lindh is not suffering from serious mental illness, adding he should be in prison, not in a psychiatric hospital.

In his final arguments in the three-day hearings on whether Mijailo Mijatovic is well enough to serve prison time, Nils

Rekke, the director of the Public Prosecution Authority, said that the 25-year-old's murder conviction and original prison sentence should stand.

Convicted terrorist freed: A Jordanian who was sentenced to four years in prison for helping plan attacks in Germany by a network headed by Islamic militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi has been granted early release, a German court said Friday.

Shadi Abdelhalim, 28, was sentenced last November by a court in Duesseldorf.

He has now served more than half of that time, reducing the time he spent in custody awaiting trial. While in prison, he served as a government witness in several German terror trials, including that of his alleged co-plotters in the German cell of the Al Qaeda group.

Georgia elections: Thousands of supporters of Abkhazia's opposition presidential candidate briefly seized the office of the outgoing president Friday, as tensions again spiked in the breakaway Georgian region nearly six weeks after a disputed — and still unresolved — election.

Demonstrators supporting Sergei Bagapsh, who has claimed victory in the Oct. 3 election, stormed the headquarters of outgoing President Vladislav Ardzinba in the province's main city, Sukhumi, and occupied it for several hours.

New Netherlands legislation: The parliament on Friday asked the government to draft legislation compelling Dutch mosques to employ only imams who have studied Islamic religion in the Netherlands.

The proposal, supported by the government and the opposition, came after a debate in which Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende's government was accused of underestimating Islamic terrorism and failing to protect filmmaker Theo van Gogh, who was killed by a suspected Muslim radical on Nov. 2.

Ukraine election: Ukraine's opposition leader and top contender for the presidency accused the government on Friday of massive election fraud during the hotly contested first round of the country's presidential election.

Viktor Yushchenko defeated Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich by just 0.5 percent edge points in the Oct. 31 balloting.

Yushchenko and Yanukovich will face off in a runoff scheduled for Nov. 21 since neither managed to top 50 percent in the first-round vote.

Stories and photo from The Associated Press

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THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL expires 11/20/04

Dollar's fall makes little dent in Pac pockets

With COLA to lean on, troops say they'll still spend off base

BY JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

As the dollar dipped last week to its lowest rate against the Japanese yen in at least a year, servicemembers and their families in Japan hardly seemed to notice.

On Friday, the dollar's exchange rate was 103 at military banking facilities throughout Japan and Okinawa.

The greenback's highest exchange rate to the yen this year was 112 in May, said Lt. Col. Keith E. Muschalek, Japan country coordinator for military allowances at U.S. Forces Japan.

"It's hardly even changing," Muschalek said. "It's not a big swing at all."

In the fall of 2002, the military dollar exchange rate was 121, and the yen steadily has gained on the dollar since.

Though the dollar doesn't stretch as far as it once did, servicemembers and their families in Japan and Okinawa say that, for the most part, they don't shop or eat off base any less as a result.

"I guess I really hadn't noticed," said Staff Sgt. Nick Sessions on Friday of the exchange rate.

A member of the 373rd Support Squadron at Misawa Air Base, Japan, Sessions said he converts dollars to yen weekly because he lives off base. "I don't really have much of a choice," he said.

Camp Krinsen, Okinawa, Capt. Danny Chung camp services officer, said he hasn't kept his family from doing or purchasing anything. He did say, however, that he has noticed groceries — especially fresh vegetables — are more expensive. He said Thursday that he traveled to about five different grocery stores to find the best deal on vegetables, and he ended up paying about \$3.50 for a head of lettuce.

Chung said that while the declining strength of the dollar has kept him from saving more money, or paying off some bills, it's not going to affect how he shops off base.

"We will still spend money," he said.

Staff Sgt. Adam Wahlgren of Yokota's 36th Artillery Squadron said he prefers to head outside the gates for nightlife and entertainment but does most of his shopping on base — just for the sheer convenience.

"Going out here, the drinks are still expensive, so the yen rate isn't going to change that," he said. "When you get 10,000 yen out at the ATM, you immediately think \$100 but it's not really that high. You're actually going out for \$90, and that can get you more than you're looking for."

"I figure, if I'm going to be in another country, I might as well enjoy it."

The robust yen rate has reined in adventure for some, though.



Money traders work as the U.S. dollar bought at 105.47 yen while the Nikkei Stock Average of 225 issues fell 77.94 points, or 0.70 percent, to close at 10,983.83 points on Monday. The U.S. dollar fell to an all-time low against the euro and a seven-month low against the Japanese yen but, many servicemembers in Japan say, the drop hasn't cost them a noticeable amount out of pocket.

Seaman Luke Spring of Sasebo Naval Base, Japan, said the current yen rate is somewhat limiting. "Restaurants cost more now, beer costs more, bus rides cost more, like if you want to go to Kumamoto," he said. "When I first got here, if you pulled \$500 yen from an ATM it was only about \$42, and now it's like \$49-something. So, you don't feel like you [can] take many trips and enjoy stuff around here."

If Americans are spending less off base, Japanese retailers say they haven't noticed.

Tadano Yamaguchi, owner of a Yamaguchi musical instrument store outside of Yokosuka Naval Base, said his customer base is holding steady.

"I haven't seen differences in customers' spending behavior," he said. "They use credit cards and when using credit cards, you don't think that much."

Kunihiko Komatsu, who is in charge of sales and promotion of specialty stores at Seiyu in Fussa near Yokota Air Base, said most Americans buy groceries and clothes on base and when they come to Seiyu, they are looking for something special, such as Starbucks coffee.

Gunnery Sgt. Dave Cringan, the career retention specialist for Marine Air Group 36, also said the weak dollar isn't going to change his habits.

"It doesn't matter to me what the yen rate is," Cringan said. "If I need to go out in town to get something, I'm going to go get it. It all equals out at some point — if the yen rate drops, [the cost-of-living adjustment] goes up, and if the yen rate increases, COLA goes down."

Chung said he has yet to notice a change in COLA as he has only been on Okinawa for several months and when he got here, the yen rate was about 106. He said this has been the lowest he's seen the rate go, and he's interested to see how much COLA increases.

"We'll see what happens," Chung said.

The COLA for servicemembers has inched up for many since May, when the dollar was at a high of 112 against the yen, Muschalek said. But any changes have been small, since it usually takes a cumulative currency change of about 10 percent to adjust the COLA index — which varies by location — up or down. In January, COLA was set at 140 for Camp Zama, Japan, for instance, and it's currently 144.

The Defense Department per diem committee adjusts military COLA on the first and 16th of each month. Officials have said that each COLA point is worth about \$20, though it can vary widely based on years of service, pay grade and number of dependents.

The yen's relative strength, however, is just one factor that influences COLA, a tax-free income supplement to equalize purchasing power between military personnel overseas and their U.S. counterparts. Some locations in Japan are about to see a decrease in COLA due to prices on the local economy. Every spring, USFJ conducts a "market basket" price survey, evaluating the cost of local goods and services from meat and vegetables to clothing and gasoline. Due to this year's survey results, COLA will drop at Camp Kure by eight points; Misawa Air Base will see a four-point drop; Atsugi Naval Air Facility's drop will be six points.

Muschalek said the COLA index at bases in these areas will drop by two points per month starting Tuesday. An E-6 with 10 years of service and three dependents will take a cut of \$25 per point each month, Muschalek said.

COLA already increased Sept. 16 from the retail price survey at Camp Zama (eight points), Okinawa (two), Yokota (two), Iwakuni (two), Yokosuka (two), Yokohama (two) and Sasebo (four).

Muschalek, the USFJ military allowances coordinator, said the increases are implemented immediately, while decreases are phased in.

Some servicemembers who live off base said in recent days that they were taking a hit from the strong yen when paying rent.

"They give us a flat yen rate for rent," said Senior Airman Stacy Green, a member of Misawa's 373rd Support Squadron who lives off base. "When the yen gets stronger, we have to pay the difference in the yen rate. That takes money out of our pocket."

Donna Marchak of Misawa's housing office said staffers there haven't noticed a trend of servicemembers opting not to live off base because of the stronger yen. For housing allowance, the yen exchange rate is reviewed every eight weeks to balance fluctuations, she said.

Hana Kusumoto, Vince Little, Greg Taylor and Fred Ziemann contributed to this article.

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Experts: Rate woes could cost military

BY TERRY BOYD
Stars and Stripes

BAUMHOLZER, Germany — For soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen living overseas, the near-record decline of the dollar's buying power is far more than a historical footnote.

It's a terrible situation for Americans living overseas, earning dollars, but making purchases or paying bills in foreign currencies, said Michael L. Levy, a Vancouver, British Columbia-based currency analyst.

Americans in Europe have lost 30 percent of their buying power during the dollar's two-year decline against the euro, for example, only slightly offset by cost-of-living adjustments, said Levy, executive vice president of Custom House Global Foreign Exchange, North America's largest independent currency brokerage.

Since December 2003, the South Korean won's value rose by about 8 percent against the dollar as of early November. Japan's yen has risen by about 1.2 percent, the British pound 4.12 percent. And, there's no end in sight, many analysts say.

The cost of living overseas is becoming so great that it may have an adverse effect on the U.S. military, according to F. Trenery Dolbear Jr., the Clinton S. Darling professor of economics at Brandeis University International Business School in Boston.

There may simply come a point where U.S. personnel can't afford to live in expensive places and [then] make a decision to get out," Dolbear said.

Though the Bush administration has proposed a major drawdown of U.S. forces in Europe, the United States still will have a sizable presence in Germany, as well as at NATO commands across Europe and in Turkey.

If the dollar keeps falling, the Department of Defense may have to provide additional financial incentives, above COLAs, to convince people to live in expensive places, Dolbear said.

Why does no one want to buy U.S. dollars right now? It boils down to too many of them floating around.

The main problem of the U.S. economy — and, by extension, the dollar — faces is that the federal government is spending more than it's taking in — a lot more, to the tune of a \$4.2 trillion national debt.

The federal government's operating budget deficit — the difference between what the government spends and what it is taking in — is about \$40 billion, 44 percent of which is financed by Asian investors, mostly in Japan and China, Levy said.

Foreign governments are covering that gap by buying U.S. government securities — buying American debt in exchange for a guaranteed return on that investment.

SEE DOLLAR ON PAGE 4

Correction

Stories about the Keen Sword 2005 exercise in Friday's editions incorrectly identified the chairman of Japan's Joint Staff Council. The chairman is Gen. Hiji-mae Masaki.

Dollar: Experts see no end in sight to U.S. currency's decline

FROM DOLLAR, PAGE 3

On top of a federal operating deficit, there's a huge current account deficit of about \$600 billion, Levis said. "Over 600 billion!" Levis said, repeating the figure for emphasis.

That's the difference between the dollars flowing out of America in purchases of finished foreign goods — especially to China and Japan — and the money flowing back in from the sales abroad of American-made goods.

With the current account deficit, "basically foreign governments are keeping the ball rolling by buying our debt," Dolbear said.

So, what does the future hold? Each expert interviewed by Stars and Stripes prefaced his remarks with the caveat, "Anything can happen." And certainly, there are infinite variables that can affect the value of the dollar.

Some, like the Bush administration's desire to make \$1.85 trillion in tax cuts permanent, could hurt if those cuts further inflate the operating deficit.

American products priced in dollars will be a better bargain and U.S. exports should rise, "but that happens very slowly. That's

not going to bail us out," Dolbear said.

Interest rate hikes could help, luring in dollars from overseas, but would in the long term be a disaster for the U.S. economy by slowing consumers' big-ticket purchases, Levis said. All experts consulted by Stars and Stripes agreed that if any measures could cause the dollar to reverse course, it would be the Bush administration making significant inroads at reducing the operating deficit.

"But it's not the design of this administration to change the way things are going," Levis said.

For the foreseeable future, the Bush administration is happy with the dollar's decline because it provides a built-in discount when paying back government debt, while boosting U.S. exports, say the experts.

"The government is quite content to let the dollar drop at least till there's a lot of hurting and screaming goes on," said Terry Joyce, vice president, head of foreign exchange marketing at Birmingham, Ala.-based Regions Financial Corp.

Europe is hurting the most, with the dollar depressing sales

of goods for economies that are seeing low growth and low consumer confidence, particularly Germany, said Joyce and others.

Foreign governments and trade and financial institutions may begin putting diplomatic and economic pressure on the Bush administration to change its weak dollar policy.

The rise of the euro against the dollar has been "brutal" and "unwelcome," Jean-Claude Triche, president of the European central bank said last week according to news reports.

Japan and China own about 44 percent of the U.S. deficit. With the dollar dropping, "at what point do these investors say they don't want to buy more U.S. debt?" Levis said. Or, he added, will they be content to try to make up the shortfall by selling us finished goods?

Moreover, investors in the Middle East and Asia seem to be diversifying their holdings, Joyce said. Investors looked to the dollar for shelter in turbulent economic times, Dolbear said. "Now they seem to be looking at the euro."

Also, the experts see a greater chance of the dollar dropping fur-

ther over the long haul.

Joyce said he sees little chance of the dollar returning to parity with the euro over the next two years.

Levis sees some good news on the horizon in the form of a "quite significant correction" in the value of the dollar, "possibly as

much as 10 percent."

But, said Levis and others, sooner or later, the dollar will resume its fall if neither the American consumer nor the Bush administration changes their spending habits.

E-mail Terry Boyd at: boyd@mail.estripes.com

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Yokota center evacuated after alarm

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — About 200 people evacuated the Yokota Community Center on Friday afternoon after a fire alarm went off.

It originated on the third floor of the building's northwest side at 3 p.m., base fire department officials said, but they don't know who triggered it. Emergency personnel found no blaze or smoke, and about 15 minutes later, the alarm was terminated and people were allowed back inside.

Base security forces officials labeled it a "false alarm" and said the incident would not be investigated.

Iwakuni updates repaving projects

Several roads are being repaved at Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station, and officials want residents to drive carefully near these areas, which will remain open during construction.

The projects include:
■ Repaving of F Avenue and 2nd Street scheduled through Dec. 7.
■ Repaving of Zbella Street and the northernmost block of Station Street scheduled through Dec. 10.

Minor curb work will begin Nov. 19, but major repaving will begin Dec. 6.

■ All work on 5th Street should be finished by Jan. 7, 2005.

In addition, the bus stop for the MAC Dome is set for the corner of Redford and Zbella; the stop for the Staff Barracks will be the corner of Newell and Zbella.

Call DSN 253-5551 for more information.

Afloat Training Group receives award

The Secretary of the Navy recently presented Afloat Training Group Western Pacific, part of Afloat Training Organization Pacific, the Meritorious Unit Commendation for the period of July 1, 1998, until Jan. 31, 2003, according to a Navy news report.

The award recognizes the Afloat Training Organization Pacific for its meritorious service while demonstrating exemplary organization and dedication, the report noted. The ATO achieved a significant manpower and monetary savings for Pacific Fleet ships and the Navy, including over \$14 million in training overhead.

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Schwarzenegger pays tribute to USMC at ball

BY JIM O'DONNELL

Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — For some, he's the action hero that killed the alien in "Predator." To others, he's the "Terminator." To California residents he's Gov. Schwarzenegger — but to Arnold Schwarzenegger, the men and women of the U.S. military are the true action stars.

Schwarzenegger expressed

that sentiment Friday night at the New Sanno Hotel, where he was the surprise special guest of the Marine Security Guard Detachment's Marine Corps Ball.

Schwarzenegger, who has been in Japan on a trade mission since Wednesday, was invited to the celebration by Howard Baker, the U.S. ambassador to Japan, and the U.S. Embassy Marine Security Guard detachment.

"When I heard you had this celebration here today, I told the ambassador that there is no way I would miss it," Schwarzenegger told the crowd Friday.

"It's great to be here with the greatest of the great, and the strongest of the strong. I am honored to join you tonight, to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the birth of the Marine Corps."

SEE BALL ONPAGE 8



JIM O'DONNELL/Stars and Stripes

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, left, greets Capt. Jeff Petersen, top left, of Atsugi Naval Air Facility, Japan, and Dustin Wyrick, bottom left, during the Marine Security Guard Detachment Tokyo's Marine Corps Ball Friday night.



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Military sets sights on new pay system

Starting in March, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service will phase in a new pay system for the military.

Called the Forward Compatible Payroll, it promises far fewer errors, an easy-to-understand Leave and Earnings Statement for servicemembers, and instantaneous adjustments to pay records.

FCP "should have a huge impact on our efficiency in providing pay services," says Sue Schallenberg, director of what DFAS calls its Military Pay Operations Transition Group.

Phase-in of FCP will begin with the Army Reserve and National Guard in March, followed by the active-duty Army in July, the entire Air Force next November and the Navy Department, with its more complex shipboard environment, in March 2006.

That will mark the end of a problem-plagued pay system developed during the Vietnam War. DFAS officials suggest they're as inclined as servicemembers to say "good riddance."

The current military payroll scheme, Defense Joint Military Pay System (DJMS), actually is two systems, one for active duty and another for reserve component forces. The two are compatible only with enormous effort, say DFAS officials.

The reserve system was designed to pay members for weekend drills and two weeks' active duty a year. Relying on it to provide accurate and timely pay to a few hundred thousand mobilized reservists has been difficult, requiring frequent manual intervention, which raises the risk of errors.

MILITARY UPDATE

Tom Philpott

Indeed, the Government Accountability Office blamed the reserve pay system in part for a plague of pay errors that hit Army Reserve and National Guard members mobilized since the Sept. 11 attacks to guard the nation and fight wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. GAO studied a sampling of mobilized units and estimated that more than 90 percent of activated soldiers suffered the frustration of significant errors in pay in 2002 and 2003. DFAS and the Army have taken aggressive measures since to ease the errors.

The current system, DJMS, is written in a programming language developed in the late 1960s. So it is cumbersome, fragile and woefully inadequate to handle recent complex changes to military pay. With DJMS, if Congress approved a new pay feature, such as Assignment Incentive Pay, it takes on average 12 to 18 months to automate such payments. Some pays, such as medical bonuses, can't be programmed.

"The work force within DFAS is actually computing and manually manipulating members' pay to make sure that they are getting the right pay," said Schallenberg.

FCP will end the need for 95 percent of current "workarounds" for reserve mobilization and new pays, said Schallenberg, and allow DFAS to shift work force focus to "prevention rather than after-the-fact corrections."

The process of moving reservists and National Guard members to activated status, with all appropriate pay and entitlement changes, "will be as simple as making a single change on the record," she added. Pay specialists no longer will have to re-enter basic information on tax exemptions, marital status, numbers of dependents, allotments or which financial institutions should receive direct deposits of members' pay.

"There will be no redundant data entries like we have today," said Schallenberg.

Also to disappear will be confusing entries on Leave and Earnings Statement, such as the "Save Pay" field where any number of unnamed entitlements might now be listed. Instead, servicemembers will see a full and clear list of entitlements and the amounts paid, allowing them to better understand and manage their pay checks.

The revised LES "will be very specific... so they won't feel like they have to go to another source to translate," said Schallenberg.

With FCP, pay specialists will work in a friendly Windows-based application versus rigid "green screens" used with DJMS.

DJMS software is so old and inflexible that when states change their tax rates,

DJMS has to be reprogrammed, which can take 12 to 18 months. That's why a surprisingly high proportion of servicemembers every year receive corrected W-2s, or Wage and Earnings Statements, from DFAS. During the first half of this year, for example, 2.7 percent of servicemembers received corrected W-2s for their 2003 tax years, so thousands of early tax filers had to file corrected tax returns.

FCP, by contrast, will use existing commercial tax packages that contractors are obligated to keep up-to-date with the latest state tax laws to allow timely recalculations of member tax liabilities.

Another benefit to FCP will be round-the-clock pay record updates versus nightly batch updates under DJMS.

"This essentially means records are in a 'pay ready' status at all times," said Schallenberg, whether updated by pay specialists or by members using the Web-based MyPay tool to change addresses, allotments or other pay features. With FCP, reservists activated longer than 30 days will be able to use MyPay to make payroll allotments.

FCP will restore member confidence in their pay system, particularly among those aware of pay problems suffered by mobilized reservists, said Sylvia Hanneken, program manager for military pay system transition in Cleveland. It will eliminate system challenges that led to operational problems, she added, and ultimately benefit all servicemembers.

To comment, write Military Update, P.O. Box 231111, Centerville, VA 20126-1111, e-mail: milupdate@aol.com or visit www.militaryupdate.com

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Ball: 'You people are the true action heroes'

BALL, FROM PAGE 5

During his speech to the more than 100 Marine Corps Ball guests, the governor spoke reverently about the Marine Corps' past.

"You have always been there on the front lines fighting to protect America and I know you have a great history of kicking some serious butt."

He attributed America's accomplishments as a nation to its military.

"The only reason why people become so successful in America, and the only reason why this country is so successful, is because of you brave men and women right here, you are the ones who protect the liberty," he said. "You are protecting this great country of America and defending the American dream."

"I want to thank all of you for the great work you are doing. You are doing a fantastic job of protecting our nation and safeguarding the stability of" the Western Pacific, Schwarzenegger said. "I only play an action hero, you people are the true action heroes."

For the 14 Marines of the embassy detachment, it was a chance to shake hands with an American cinema icon. Embassy guard duty was being covered for the night by Seoul's Embassy guard detachment so the Tokyo

guards could attend the ball.

"It was outstanding, a dream come true," said Sgt. Arnaldo Medina of Newark, N.J. "I am a big fan of his movies, and to see him out here was unreal. I was very surprised."

Cpl. Dustin Collins of Malone, N.Y., the youngest Marine present, said the governor's presence was "pretty great."

"It was a great honor," Collins said. "It was a real pleasure having him here. I really appreciated what he had to say about us. But the 'Governator's' appearance wasn't without a hiccup."

Marine Corps Ball tradition involves the presentation of the ceremonial cake, which is cut by the youngest Marine and the oldest Marine in attendance.

This part of the ball was delayed by Schwarzenegger's appearance.

Cpl. Zachery Navo, one of the four Marines responsible for parading the cake, wasn't fazed by the delay.


"We're Marines — we adapt and overcome," said Navo, who paraded the cake in front of the audience after Schwarzenegger

left. "It's not a Marine Ball until you cut that cake."

Despite a little inconvenience, the Visalia, Calif., resident was happy about the surprise guest.

"It really was great, awesome," to get to shake his governor's hand, he said.

E-mail Jim O'Donnell at: odonnell@pistripes.osd.mil



Yokota Baptist Church



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Morning Service	1100	Ladies Meeting	1st Sat
Evening Service	1800		
Monday		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nov. 14th New Member's Reception • Nov. 19th YCA Thanksgiving Dinner • Nov. 25th YBC ANNUAL FAMILY THANKSGIVING DINNER 	
Faith Bible Institute	1830		
Tuesday			
Soul Winning & Visitation	1830		
Wednesday			
Evening Service & Prayer Mtg	1900		
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374th improves environmental protocols

BY VINCE LITTLE

Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — The 374th Airlift Wing distinguished itself during a recent environmental, safety and occupational inspection by Pacific Air Forces, base officials said.

Called the Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health Compliance Inspection Assessment and Management Program, the review was held Oct. 25-Nov. 2.

According to inspection leaders, Yokota received 25 percent fewer major findings in environmental protocols and 80 percent fewer sig-

nificant findings in safety and occupational procedures than in 2001.

"Yokota was not that far 'below standards' or out of compliance," said Donna Collier, the 374th Civil Engineer Squadron's environmental flight chief. "The base just needed some improvements and enhancements in our programs, including tightening up on programmatic issues and shop attentiveness."

Since 2001, Yokota officials have stressed sharper compliance and attention to detail at all levels in environmental, safety and occupational health requirements.

As a result, Collier said, environ-

"Yokota ... just needed some improvements and enhancements in our programs, including tightening up on programmatic issues."

Donna Collier

Environmental flight chief, 374th Civil Engineer Squadron

mental protocols improved dramatically in areas such as hazardous materials, ozone-depleting substances and hazardous waste. Measures also were taken to enhance program management and pollu-

tion prevention.

Compared with previous inspections, all of Yokota's safety and occupational health procedures drew higher marks, particularly with increased oversight in chemical-haz-

ard reduction and respiratory protection programs, said Maj. William Hurtle, the bioenvironmental engineering flight chief.

"Each protocol in the ESOHCAMP affects many shops and it is easy to fall into noncompliance with a little neglect," he said. "Team Yokota put a great deal of effort in the past three years and especially leading up to this assessment to make sure that our warriors were healthy, safe and in compliance at the workplace."

The PACAF team identified four outstanding individual performers: Collier, Senior Master Sgt. Daniel Gamboa, the 374th Airlift Wing's safety office and confined space program team leader; Master Sgt. Steven Oakes, the 374th Civil Engineer Squadron's liquid fuels maintenance and confined space manager; and Yuki Inoue, the 374th Civil Engineer Squadron's environmental quality and pollution prevention manager.

Officials said inspectors also praised the 374th Maintenance Squadron and 374th Civil Engineer Squadron for their processes, programs and improvements.

Maintenance personnel devised a waste compressor that's dropped the number of drums from 25 a week to five a month, saving the wing \$55 for each unused barrel. Civil engineer officials earned recognition for landscape design, maintenance and protection.

An ESOHCAMP external inspection is conducted by PACAF every three years, while an internal examination takes place during the two years that fall in the middle.

E-mail Vince Little at: littlev@strips.osd.mil

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Sasebo chiefs car sale

SASEBO NAVAL BASE, Japan — Sasebo's Chief Petty Officers Association is sponsoring a car sale here for three days.

The sale takes place from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Nov. 19 through Nov. 21 in the parking lot of the Branch Medical Clinic on the main base facility. As many as 30 used cars will be available, a spokesman said.

The CPOA is raising funds for the programs they support each year, and a CPOA scholarship fund, said Senior Chief Petty Officer Oscar Mercado, CPOA president.

Call Mercado at DSN 252-3381 for more information.

Sasebo sale set

SASEBO NAVAL BASE, Japan — Sasebo's Navy League of the United States Council is selling used Japanese kimono, obi and dolls in the Dragon Crest multipurpose room in the main base housing area.

The sale takes place from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Nov. 20 and Nov. 21. Organizers accept dollars or yen.

The Navy League Council is raising money to support the various programs they sponsor each year, said Jerry Havens, Navy League president.

Call Havens at DSN 252-3109 for more information.

From staff reports

Japan says mystery sub is Chinese, logs protest

BY KENJI HALL

The Associated Press

TOKYO — Japan lodged a formal protest with Beijing on Friday after determining that a nuclear submarine that entered its territorial waters without identifying itself belonged to China.

Japan's navy has been on alert since Wednesday, when the submarine was first spotted off the southern island of Okinawa.

Tokyo had sent reconnaissance aircraft and naval destroyers to shadow the craft, which had spent about two hours in Japanese waters before heading north.

Foreign Minister Nobutaka

Machimura summoned Chinese envoy Cheng Yonghua to formally protest the incursion and demand an explanation, a ministry spokesman said on condition of anonymity.

Cheng said Chinese authorities were investigating the incident and that he'd report the protest to Beijing, the spokesman said.

Kyodo News Agency quoted Cheng as saying he could not immediately say whether the

"It is extremely regrettable," Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi said Friday of the incident.

"In order to prevent a recurrence, we must know why this happened, and we are awaiting a response from the Chinese."

Earlier, Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroyuki Hosoda said Tokyo had concluded the craft was Chinese, including the fact that it appeared to be headed for China.

"Judging from several pieces of information, we found that the submarine belongs to the Chinese navy," Hosoda said at a news conference.

He said that while Tokyo believed in keeping peaceful diplomatic relations and promoting friendship with China, it expected an appropriate response from Beijing.

"It's up to what follows. We have to take into consideration

many things, such as how China responds and Japan's public opinion," he said.

The dispute comes as Chinese and Japanese officials work to arrange a meeting between Koizumi and Chinese President Hu Jintao on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Ailei later this month.

The two have not met this year, and leaders from the neighboring countries have not made reciprocal visits since October 2001 — a frostiness apparently caused by Koizumi's repeated visits to a Tokyo war shrine that China says glorifies Japan's brutal World War II aggression.

Koizumi said Friday that much depended on Beijing's response, but that he did not expect long-term damage to ties.

"Our relations with China are important, so both sides must make an effort so that they are not negatively affected," he said.

Defense Agency chief Yoshinori Ono lifted Japan's naval alert on Friday, Hosoda said. He didn't say whether the aircraft and destroyers were returning home.

Territorial disputes have occasionally flared between Japan and neighboring China, South Korea and Russia. Tokyo has recently squabbled with Beijing over natural gas deposits in the East China Sea.

Contact may shed light on fate of woman abducted by N. Korea

BY NATALIE OBIKO PEARSON

The Associated Press

TOKYO — The father of a Japanese woman kidnapped by North Korean spies 26 years ago welcomed news Friday that negotiators had made contact with her alleged husband in the communist state, saying the development could help reveal the truth about her fate.

A Japanese delegation in Pyongyang for bilateral talks about North Korea's abduction of Japanese citizens in the 1970s and '80s met with a North Korean man said to be

Megumi Yokota's husband, Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroyuki Hosoda told reporters.

Yokota was 13 when she was kidnapped in 1977 on her way home from badminton practice and taken to the communist country where she — and other abduction victims — helped train spies in Japanese language and culture.

The North claims Yokota married and had a daughter with a man named Kim Chol Jun, but that she killed herself in 1993. Some Japanese, however, suspect she may still be alive.

Hosoda did not elaborate on Friday's

meeting between the Japanese delegation and the man identified as Kim.

But he added that the delegation also went to the hospital where North Korean officials say Yokota was treated and spoke with a doctor who handled her case. The North claims Yokota suffered from severe depression and committed suicide at a mental facility.

"I don't know what exactly is going on. But I feel we are moving a step closer to the truth," said Yokota's father, Shigeru.

Hosoda also said that the four-day talks, originally scheduled to end on Friday, had

been extended through the weekend to allow the delegation to meet with more people related to the kidnappings and to continue discussions.

DNA tests have confirmed that Yokota had a daughter, Kim Hea Kyong, who is still living in North Korea.

Aside from Yokota, the North admitted in 2002 to kidnapping 12 other Japanese

and later allowed five to return to home. It said the eight others had died, but doubts have emerged after inconsistencies arose. A set of remains said to belong to one victim was sent back to Tokyo, but DNA testing showed they were false.

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Peterson guilty of murdering wife, child

BY BRIAN SKOLOFF

The Associated Press

REDWOOD CITY, Calif. — Scott Peterson was convicted Friday of murdering his pregnant wife and dumping her body in San Francisco Bay in what prosecutors in the made-for-cable-TV case portrayed as a cold-blooded attempt to escape marriage and fatherhood for the bachelor life.

Peterson, 32, could get the death penalty. He was convicted of one count of first-degree murder for killing his wife, Laci, and one count of second-degree murder in the death of the son she was carrying.

Family members intensely waited in the courtroom and hundreds of onlookers gathered outside to hear word of the verdict.

The verdict came after a five-month trial that was an endless source of fascination to the tabloids, People magazine and the cable networks with its story of an attractive, radiant young couple awaiting the birth of their first child, a cheating husband, and a slaying for which prosecutors had no eyewitnesses, no weapon, not even a cause of death.

The verdict followed a tumultuous seven days of deliberations in which two jurors were removed for unspecified reasons and the judge twice told the panel to start over.

The jury of six men and six women were told to return Nov. 22 to begin hearing testimony on whether Peterson should die by lethal injection or get life in prison without parole.

Laci Peterson, a 27-year-old substitute teacher, was eight months pregnant when she vanished around Christmas Eve 2002. Four months later, her headless body and the remains of her fetus were discovered along the shoreline about 90 miles from the couple's Modesto home — not far from where her husband claims he was fishing alone the day of her disappearance.

Peterson soon was arrested in the San Diego area, more than 400 miles from home, carrying nearly \$15,000, his hair and goatee bleached blond.

Police never were able to establish exactly when, how or where Laci died.

At trial, prosecutors presented 174 witnesses and hundreds of

pieces of evidence, from wiretapped phone calls to videotaped police interrogations, depicting Peterson as liar and a philanderer who was sweet-talking his girlfriend, massage therapist Amber Frey, at the same time he was trying to show the world he was pining for his missing wife.

Prosecutor Rick Distaso told the jury that the former fertilizer salesman could not stand the thought of being trapped in a

"dull, boring, married life with kids," and either strangled or smothered his wife and dumped her weighted-down body overboard from his fishing boat.

"He wants to live the rich, successful, free-wheeling bachelor life. He can't do that when he's paying child support, alimony and everything else," Distaso said. "He didn't want to be tied to this kid the rest of his life. He didn't want to be tied to Laci for the rest

of his life. So he killed her."

The jury heard how Peterson had bought a two-day ocean-fishing license days before Laci disappeared, yet claimed his fishing trip was a last-minute substitution for golf because of blustery weather. Prosecutors also offered evidence suggesting he used a bag of cement mix to make concrete anchors to sink his wife's body into the bay.

Peterson never took the stand. His lawyers argued that he was the victim of a frame-up. They suggested that someone else — perhaps homeless people, sex offenders or suspicious-looking characters spotted in the neighborhood — abducted Laci while she walked the dog, then killed her and dumped the body in the water after learning of Peterson's fishing-trip alibi.



Peterson

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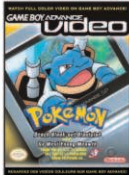


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IN THE STATES

Source: Education Secretary Paige plans to leave Cabinet

BY BEN FELLER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Education Secretary Rod Paige intends to leave his Cabinet position, a Bush administration official told The Associated Press Friday.

"The secretary has been looking at leaving, and he's been in discussion with the White House about the right time to do so," said the official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

A Texan like Bush, Paige, 71, rose to prominence as an award-winning superintendent in Houston before becoming the nation's first black education secretary. He has been an outspoken defender of No Child Left Behind, the education law at the center of Bush's domestic agenda.

Paige would be the third member of the Bush Cabinet to make plans to leave since the president won a second term. Attorney General John Ashcroft and Commerce Secretary Don Evans also are departing.

Paige has not formally handed in his resignation, according to the official, who has talked to Paige about his plans.

The administration official said Paige is content to move on after overseeing Bush's education agen-

da for four years. The official declined to be identified because Paige has yet to resign.

A leading candidate to replace Paige is Margaret Spellings, Bush's domestic policy adviser who helped shape his school agenda when he was the Texas governor. Spellings has a keen interest in schools and may want the Cabinet-level education job.

Paige has presided over the biggest federal shake up to education in a generation, a law demanding that schools show improvement among all students, regardless of race or wealth.

Paige, who grew up in segregated Mississippi, puts No Child Left Behind in the category of Brown v. Board of Education, the landmark case that ended separating schools by race.

Yet Paige has had rocky moments, with none more glaring than when he called the National Education Association a "terrorist organization" in a private meeting with governors.



Paige

Bush and Blair pledge to work for Mideast peace

BY DEB REICHMANN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush said Friday the death of Yasser Arafat provides "a great chance to establish a Palestinian state" and a broader Middle East peace.

At a joint White House news conference, Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair pledged their support for a fresh stab at peace. The president said it was up to Palestinians to elect a democratic government and Arafat's successors to allow freedoms to take root.

"We'll hold their feet to the fire to make sure that democracy prevails," he said.

Bush, whose policy in Iraq frayed relations with France, Germany and other traditional allies, also said he intends to travel to Europe as soon as possible after his second inaugural, on Jan. 20.

While Bush coupled his call for a Palestinian state with his unwavering support of Israeli security, Blair stressed the need to bolster Palestinians.

"If we want a viable Palestinian state, we want to make sure the political, the economic and the security infrastructure of that state is shaped and comes into being," the British prime minister said.

The Bush and Blair governments hope a change in Palestinian leadership might open new avenues toward peace.

There was fresh news, too, in Iraq, a chilling reminder of the perilous life of the Middle East: Insurgents downed a U.S. Army Black Hawk helicopter



President Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair hold a joint news conference in the East Room at the White House on Friday.

north of Baghdad, wounding three crew members. In their two days of meetings, Blair had hoped to shift Bush's attention from Iraq to the stalled Mideast peace process.

While the president didn't commit to a Mideast conference or sending a U.S. envoy to the region — two items sought by Europeans — he did talk more optimistically about the prospects for a Palestinian state.

"I intend to use the next four years to spend the capital of the United States on such a state," Bush said. "I believe it is in the interests of the world that such a truly free state develop. I know it is in the interest of the Palestinian people."



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U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Thursday, at least 1,155 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 877 died as a result of hostile action, the Defense Department said. The figures include three military civilians.

The AP count is six higher than the Defense Department's tally, which was not updated Thursday because of Veterans Day.

The British military has reported 74 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 13; Spain, 11; Ukraine, nine; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador,

Hungary and Latvia have reported one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,017 U.S. military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 778 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ No new deaths reported.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ Army Staff Sgt. Michael Ottolini, 45, Sebastopol, Calif.; killed Wednesday when explosive detonated near his vehicle in Balad,

Iraq; assigned to the California National Guard, 579th Engineer Battalion, Petaluma, Calif.

■ Army Spc. Travis A. Babbitt, 24, Uvalde, Texas; killed Tuesday when his patrol was attacked in Baghdad; assigned to the 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

■ Army Sgt. John B. Trotter, 25, Marble Falls, Texas; killed Tuesday in a small arms attack in Ramadi, Iraq; assigned to the 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Howze, South Korea.

■ Army Staff Sgt. Todd R. Cornell, 38, West Bend, Wis.; killed Tuesday in an attack in Fallujah, Iraq; assigned to the Army Reserves, 1st Battalion, 339th Infantry Regiment, Fraser, Mich.

■ Marine Staff Sgt. Russell L. Slay, 28, Humble, Texas; killed Tuesday in Anbar province, Iraq;

assigned to the 2nd Assault Amphibian Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

■ Marine Sgt. Lonny D. Wells, 29, Vandergrift, Pa.; killed Tuesday in Anbar province, Iraq; assigned to the 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Killed Tuesday in Anbar province, Iraq; assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

■ Marine Lance Cpl. Juan E. Segura, 26, Homestead, Fla.

■ Marine Cpl. William C. James, 24, Huntington Beach, Calif.

■ Marine Lance Cpl. Nicholas D. Larson, 19, Wheaton, Ill.

■ Marine Lance Cpl. Nathan R. Wood, 19, Kirkland, Wash.

Fallujah progress not easy

BY ALEX RODRIGUEZ

Chicago Tribune

BAGHDAD — While U.S. troops drove deeper into insurgent strongholds in southern Fallujah on Friday, rebel violence raged across the rest of Iraq. Clashes erupted in several Iraqi cities and insurgents shot down a U.S. Black Hawk helicopter outside Baghdad.

In Mosul, Iraq, where militants last week overran police stations and roamed freely, a firefight broke out Friday between insurgents and guards for a major Kurdish political party. The gunmen killed a senior police officer. Six insurgents were killed, officials said.

In Baghdad, insurgents ambushed a U.S. military patrol just before 1 p.m., unleashing a volley of rocket-propelled grenades, gunfire and homemade bombs that killed one U.S. soldier and wounded two others, the U.S. military said.

A few hours later, insurgents shot down a Black Hawk helicopter near Taji, Iraq, 12 miles north of Baghdad, the U.S. military said.

Three members of the four-man crew were injured. The downing of the U.S. helicopter was the third this week.

Insurgent attacks and clashes with Iraqi security forces also broke out in Samarra, Hillah, Kirkuk, Hawija and Baghdad's Adhamiyah neighborhood.

On Friday, the Arab television network Al-Jazeera broadcast an audiotape purported to be militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi urging Iraqis to join the fight against U.S.-led forces in Fallujah.

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Evolution of teaching

School district mandates alternative theories to Darwin's in biology class

BY MARTHA RAFFAELE

The Associated Press

DOVER, Pa. — When talk at the high school here turns to the origins of life, biology teachers have to make time for both Charles Darwin as well as his detractors.

Last month, this rural south-central Pennsylvania community became first in the nation to mandate the teaching of "intelligent design," which holds that the universe is so complex that it must have been created by an unspecified higher power.

Last month, the Dover Area School District board voted to overhaul its ninth-grade biology curriculum. It now requires students to learn about alternate theories to evolution, which holds that Earth is billions of years old and that life forms developed over millions of years.

Critics say it's a veiled attempt to require public school children to learn creationism, a biblical-based view that credits the origin of species to God.

The state American Civil Liberties Union chapter is reviewing the matter. Its Georgia counterpart is fighting a suburban Atlanta district's decision to include a warning sticker in biology textbooks that says evolution is "a theory, not a fact."

"What Dover has done goes much further than what's happened in Georgia," said Witold Wakczargis, legal director of the Pennsylvania ACLU. "As far as we can tell, Dover is the first school district that has actually mandated intelligent design."

The district enrolls about 2,800 students. It encompasses the small, rural community of Dover borough, about 20 miles south of Harrisburg, and a patchwork of farmland and newer suburban developments in several surrounding townships.

The revision was spearheaded by school board member William Buckingham, who heads the board's curriculum committee.

"I think it's a downright fraud to perpetrate on the students of this district to portray one theory over and over," said Buckingham. "What we wanted was a balanced presentation."

Buckingham wanted the board to adopt an intelligent-design textbook, "Of Pandas and People: The Central Question of Biological Origins," as a supplement to the traditional biology book, but no vote was ever taken. A few weeks before the new science curriculum was approved, 50 copies were anonymously donated to the

high school.

Although Buckingham describes himself as a born-again Christian and believes in creationism, "This is not an attempt to impose my views on anyone else," he said.

Two of the dissenting board members, Carol Brown and her husband, Jeff, were so upset that they resigned after the 6-3 vote on Oct. 18.

"We have a vocal group within the community who feel very strongly in an evangelical Christian way that there is no separation of church and state," Carol Brown said. "Our responsibility is to represent the viewpoints of all members of the community."

Statewide science-curriculum standards approved by Pennsylvania's state Education Board merely ask students to "analyze data ... that are

relevant to the theory of evolution."

When the standards were revised three years ago, the board considered language that would have required students to consider evidence that did not support evolution, but the board dropped the idea after critics alleged it would have led to the widespread teaching of creationism in public schools.

Critics of intelligent design contend it is creationism repackaged in more secular-sounding language.

"Creationism is a cheap tuxedo," said Nicholas Matzke, project information specialist for the National Center for Science Education in Oakland, Calif., which advocates for the teaching of evolution.

Even the Seattle-based Discovery Institute, which supports scientists studying intelligent-design theory, opposes mandating it in schools because it is a relatively new concept, said John West, associate director of the institute's Center for Science and Culture.

Jonathan Tome, whose three sons attend Dover schools, applauded the measure.

"You can't be hypocritical with these kids, teaching them one thing but not another," said Tome, 43.

But sophomore Courtney Lawton said she didn't have a problem learning only about evolution in biology class last year.

"I just think they should keep it the way it is, and they shouldn't add anything about a higher power," said Lawton, 15.

"People who believe differently, they might feel like they're being segregated."

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Both sides of gay marriage issue energized

A year after Mass. ruling, proponents undeterred by passage of bans in 17 states

By KAREN TESTA
The Associated Press

BOSTON — One year ago, the fight for gay marriage rights appeared to be gaining ground. Though dozens of states had passed defense of marriage laws, advocates took heart in state-sanctioned civil unions in Vermont, expanded domestic partnership benefits in California, and a Supreme Court decision striking down the Texas sodomy law.

Then came their most stunning victory: a decision by the highest court in Massachusetts making the state the first to sanction same-sex marriages. The ruling was hailed by supporters as the start of a new era.

But the pendulum swings both ways. As supporters celebrate the first anniversary of the landmark Massachusetts ruling Nov. 18, opponents' hopes are bolstered by this year's strong election showing, when 11 states pushed through constitutional amendments banning gay marriage, joining six others who'd done so earlier. And President Bush has vowed to make a federal anti-gay marriage amendment a priority of his second term.

Both sides now say momentum is moving in their favor.

History is often not measured in months or years, but in decades and generations. And both sides know the issue of gay marriage is not one that will be quickly settled in courtrooms or in the court of public opinion.

In April 2001, seven gay and lesbian couples who were denied marriage licenses sued in superior court in Boston to challenge the state's gay marriage ban. Two and a half years later, a deeply divided Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court found there was "no rational reason" for such a ban under the state's constitution and ordered the state to start allowing gays to marry six months later.

The decision ignited a wildfire of reaction — from vigilante officials issuing marriage licenses in San Francisco and New York to conservative and religious groups pumping millions of dollars into efforts to support constitutional bans to politicians calling for removal of "activist judges."

Earlier this year, Massachusetts lawmakers took one step closer to placing a proposed constitutional amendment on the No-

vember 2006 ballot that would ban gay marriages but allow for Vermont-style civil unions.

It also sparked further legal challenges in Massachusetts, where officials cited a 1913 law — which some say was written to prohibit intermarriages — to keep out-of-state gay couples from seeking marriage licenses.

Within a week of the Nov. 2 election, lawsuits were filed against the new gay marriage bans in Oklahoma and Georgia. Earlier this year, Louisiana's ban was struck down by a state court that found it improperly dealt with more than one subject by banning same-sex marriage and any legal recognition of common-law relationships, domestic partnerships and civil unions.

Eight of the 11 state bans passed on Election Day include prohibitions of civil unions as well as marriage.

Not all the news out of the election was bad news for gay-marriage supporters.

In Cincinnati, voters voted to repeal a 1993 law that had banned gay marriage in the city. And in Massachusetts — though a backlash was threatened against lawmakers who supported equal treatment for

same-sex couples — none was voted out of office.

In Idaho and North Carolina, voters elected their first openly gay legislators, and an openly gay Hispanic woman was elected county sheriff in Dallas.

Supporters of same-sex recognition are pressing their cases in the courts of at least a half-dozen states, hoping they'll eventually succeed when the case reaches the highest court.

Lawsuits seeking marriage rights or challenging bans on same-sex marriage have been filed in Nebraska, Washington, California, New York, New Jersey and Oregon, the state where the constitutional ban passed by the narrowest margin.

Opponents want to capitalize on the backlash and move quickly for a federal constitutional ban. The election loss of Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota, who helped scuttle a July vote on an amendment, fosters their hope that lawmakers in Washington will do what they failed to do last session, Staver said.

But Yale law professor William Eskridge, who has written a book about Vermont civil unions, said it would be insanity to move now to change the U.S. Constitution.



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Shot could be newest step in male contraception

BY RANDOLPH E. SCHMID

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The world of male contraception has been limited to condoms and vasectomies. But researchers now point to a new method that shows promise — a shot that prevents an immune reaction to a protein produced in the male reproductive system.

The method worked in experiments on male monkeys, most of which were stopped, researchers report in Thursday's issue of the journal Science.

"Immunosuppression for males is a possibility and hopefully will be developed for human use over the next several

years," said Dr. Michael O'Rand of the University of North Carolina.

O'Rand, lead researcher in the project, said that progress depends on funding for the work and that even with unlimited money, translating the findings into human use could take a decade.

"This is a proof of principle. It could be adapted for human use with continued development and the appropriate safety-toxicology tests," O'Rand said.

Nonetheless, the success in monkeys does indicate a new possibility for male contraception.

In recent years, researchers have developed some male contraceptives, based on hormones, that were designed to suppress sperm production. This work is now in trials.

In O'Rand's experiments, which did not involve hormones, monkeys were immunized using a form of epin. That is a protein produced in the testis and epididymis, the tightly coiled ducts that carry sperm.

Male monkeys that developed a strong immune response to the epin were still able to copulate but could not impregnate females, the researchers said.

"We don't understand the exact mechanism yet, but we think the immunosuppression works by preventing the sperm from freeing itself from the seminal fluid to make its way to the uterus and oviducts to fertilize the egg," O'Rand said.

In the experiments, designed in the United States and carried out in India, seven of the nine males tested developed high anti-

body levels. Five of the seven recovered fertility once the immunization stopped. They were injected with epin about every three weeks to maintain the immunization. Dr. Patricia Anastasia DeLeon of the University of Delaware said the results were significant and that scientists were lucky to get a protein that would produce antibodies.

Normally the body does not produce antibodies against its own proteins, she said. Three weeks later, the testis and epididymis are protected by a barrier so the protein never gets into the bloodstream. So, when epin was injected into the bloodstream the immune system did not recognize it and produced antibodies.

"I think it's significant because the reversibility is very attractive," said DeLeon, who was not part of the research team.

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OPINION

What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other statewide syndicates.

Arafat's evil acts fill book
Rocky Mountain News, Denver

On Sept. 9, 1993, Yasser Arafat signed a letter to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin pledging that the Palestine Liberation Organization "recognizes the right of the State of Israel to exist in peace and security." That was a lie, and it is one of many reasons the world should not mourn the passing of this petty tyrant. ...

The list of crimes the PLO chairman has incited or been associated with over the years would stain every page of a good-sized book. Highlights, however, would include the slaughter of athletes at the 1972 Summer Olympics by Black September, the assassination of U.S. diplomats in Sudan in 1973; the massacre of schoolchildren at Maalot, Israel, in 1974; a bus hijacking that killed 35 civilians in 1978; the slaying of Leon Klinghoffer on the Achille Lauro in 1985; the torture and execution of Palestinian dissidents, especially during the intifada of the late 1980s and early '90s; and the suicide bombings of the Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigade in more recent years. ...

Arafat's death provides Palestinians with an opportunity to turn away from the violence of half a century to choose a more productive course.

Spend wisely, for our sake
Bradenton (Fla.) Herald

President Bush certainly is entitled to "spend the political capital" he earned by winning re-election. The big question is how much will his capital buy in what could be a contentious "marketplace," a Congress and nation sharply divided by war, social issues and fiscal policy.

Bush's tone and demeanor at this month's post-election news conference indicated he sees his victory as a mandate for a broad agenda of domestic reforms on which he campaigned. Certainly, compared to some elections in which the victor claimed a mandate by a far smaller margin — John F. Kennedy did so after beating Richard Nixon by two-fifths of 1 percent — Bush's 51 to 48 percent, 3.5 million-vote margin over John Kerry could empower the president to set national goals for the next term.

Certainly the president is entitled to push the policies that he thinks are in the nation's best interests. But it would be a mistake to do so in a partisan, one-sided way. He pledged to work across party lines to help heal the rifts caused by the campaign.

If he breaks that pledge, he could find himself in the same second-term predicament as some predecessors who overreached.

Bush indeed has political capital. We only hope he spends it wisely.

Fallujah will sort things out
San Francisco Chronicle

The immediate military outcome of the offensive by U.S. soldiers and Marines against insurgents in control of Fallujah is hardly in doubt. Our troops, accompanied for symbolic purposes by thin ranks of newly trained Iraqis, will take charge of the city, notorious for the killings and dismemberment of four American contractors in March. ...

Fallujah offensive is supported by the interim Iraqi government of Prime Minister Ayad Allawi in the hope that pacifying Fallujah will help the country to hold credible national elections in January. It is questionable about the likely success of this strategy.

Some in the minority Sunni community threaten to boycott the election while clerical leaders of the Shiite majority see in their path to power. ...



United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan is not confident that Iraq's violence can be quelled sufficiently to create an effective election climate, or that a military offensive now will aid the democratic cause. He warned against launching the Fallujah offensive. ...

The Bush administration's policy for re-making Iraq faces hard testing in the next few months.

Killing critics is unacceptable
Lebanon (Pa.) Daily News

Many Americans may have missed the story of how Dutch filmmaker Theo Van Gogh was shot, had his throat cut and had a long jihadist manifesto pinned to his flesh with a knife as he cried out for mercy. This happened in Amsterdam, the most pacific and tolerant of European capitals, in broad daylight, Nov. 2.

Van Gogh, the great-grandnephew of the famous artist Vincent, was a provocative satirist and social critic with secular postmodern liberal views. His film "Submission," features a woman in a see-through burka telling the story of an abusive and violent marriage from which her own family would not protect her for religious reasons. ...

The suspect in Van Gogh's death is a 26-year-old Moroccan immigrant who belonged to the same Islamist cult as Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, who directs the *jihad* in Iraq. ...

There can be no place in Western civilization for people who react to those who offend them by murdering them in cold blood or issuing religious edicts calling for their death. ...

Also deplorable is the apparent answering crime to Van Gogh's death: the bombing of an Islamic elementary school last Sunday. The bomb, whether by design or great good fortune, went off at 3:30 a.m. The most hopeful thing one could say is that the bombers were trying to send a message without sending blood into the gutters, but hate is hate, and crime is crime, and the bombing, like the murder, was both.

'Values' is a porous umbrella
The Post-Standard, Syracuse, N.Y.

Morality may be the surprise issue of the 2004 campaign. But whose morality? According to exit-poll interviews, one-fifth of the voters cited "moral values" as their chief concern. Words like "morality," "faith" and

"family values" seemed to resonate as never before in the election. And of those voters, 8 in 10 picked President Bush.

This doesn't mean challenger John Kerry is somehow less "moral" than Bush. The former teen boy who carried a rosary and Bible with him on the campaign trail has no less "faith" than the incumbent. So how come his "values" failed to impress all those American voters? ... If you don't happen to be an evangelical Christian; if your views of "morality" and "family values" don't include a ban on gay marriage or civil unions, outlawing abortion and embryonic stem-cell research; if you are uncomfortable erasing the line between church and state; this election provided only cold comfort.

Paying for combat gear
Times Union, Albany, N.Y.

The Bush administration's latest appropriations request for the war in Iraq totaled \$70 billion, and that was only a stopgap measure in what is expected to be a long and costly American presence. Yet for all the money that Congress has so far approved, it comes as a jolt to be reminded of how ill-equipped many soldiers in Iraq are today.

How ill-equipped? Enough so that they and their families have had to dig into their own pockets to buy vital supplies to help them wage combat with insurgents — walkie-talkies, flashlights, gloves and bulletproof vests, even homemade armor for Humvees. ...

The support is heartening, but the fact that it is needed is disgraceful. ... But what is worse is that the money to buy needed equipment was there all along. Only much of it was diverted by Congress to pay for pork items. Some examples of those projects, as revealed in a report on the Oct. 31 "60 Minutes" television program, include curtailing the brown snake in Hawaii, and maintaining a marching field on a closed military base.

It's all so outrageous. Why isn't the Pentagon resisting every effort by Congress to siphon funds? More to the point, where is Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld? He should be using his office as a bully pulpit to expose the lawmakers who are taking money away from our troops. Why the silence?

Opportunity to help exists
The Herald, Everett, Wash.

If people learned anything about George W. Bush in his first term, it's that he isn't

afraid to think big. Those who love him admire his zeal; those who loathe him are terrified by it.

The mild overtone he made to Democrats following his re-election this month hardly signaled a retreat from his aggressive style. It was an invitation to help him implement his party's goals, not an offer to compromise them. But even in that light, the president has a rare and real opportunity to forge consensus and make historic progress on some difficult, long-standing issues.

Two of them: Social Security reform and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Social Security, as Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan has warned repeatedly, cannot in its current form support the impending retirement of 77 million baby boomers. Major changes must be made, and they'll be unpopular. ...

In the Middle East, the destruction of the war in Iraq kept the Israeli-Palestinian peace process on the back burner of U.S. foreign policy. Now, with a leadership change coming to the Palestinian Authority, the president should seize the moment and reassert traditional U.S. leadership [in the issue]. ...

Historic opportunities don't often intersect with a leader who has the vision and political capital to take advantage of them. We hope this president realizes that.

High hopes for Sen. Obama
Daily Southtown, Tinley Park, Ill.

Voters in the Land of Lincoln are marching to the beat of a different drum than the rest of the United States.

Not only did Illinois voters give John Kerry a wide majority over President Bush, they also gave Barack Obama what may have been the largest victory margin ever in a U.S. Senate race.

For the second time in 12 years, Illinois elected an African-American to the U.S. Senate. ...

But remember, Obama becomes only the fifth African-American elected to the Senate in the history of the United States. (Carol Mosley Braun was the only black woman ever elected to the Senate. Illinois is proving to be a real land of opportunity for African-Americans, at least in the political world. ...

Obama goes to Washington amid high expectations. His campaign theme of bridging political divisions might be what what party needs after losing at least four seats Nov. 2 — including Minnesota Governor Mark Daschle of South Dakota.

Family business

CA SANTA MONICA — When city officials demanded that Bobby Shriver trim the hedges around his posh home or face misdemeanor charges, the outraged Kennedy nephew did what came naturally — he jumped into politics.

Backed by his famous family — including his brother-in-law, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger — Shriver went on to wrap up the City Council election as the top vote-getter, leaving his extended clan wondering whether they should have nudged him toward the family business a little sooner.

"Lanlde Bob, that's my nickname," said Shriver, 50, who heads an AIDS foundation called DATA. "Now they're asking me, why did I make them all work so hard for a landslide?"

Not content to rely on family star power alone, the nephew of former President John F. Kennedy and son of 1972 vice presidential nominee R. K. Shriver dived into city mailboxes with a series of glossy "issues" fliers on homelessness, traffic and the environment.

Endangered and injured

KS HUTCHINSON — Two of the world's roughly 500 whooping cranes have been found injured in fields near the Quivira National Wildlife Refuge.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Kansas Department of Wildlife are trying to find out how the birds were injured. One has a broken wing and the other had a leg that had to be removed.

The cranes' conditions were described as guarded Monday afternoon at the Kansas State University Veterinary Medical Center in Manhattan. Dr. Jim Carpenter, with the school's zoological medical department, said there was a good chance both birds will survive.

Rusty vegetation

LA BATON RUGE — The first U.S. cases of soybean rust — which hinders plant growth and drastically cuts crop production — were found at two research sites in Louisiana, agriculture officials said Wednesday.

The wind-borne spores are suspected to have blown in the fungus from South America during the hurricane season and were found after the bulk of the state's soybeans had been harvested, Louisiana Agriculture Commissioner Bob Odum said.

Though agriculture officials said the effect of the fungus should be minimal this year because it appeared after much of the harvest, Odum said he was worried that Louisiana's soybeans wouldn't sell as well.

Soybean rust can be treated with fungicides, but that adds increased costs to the production of soybeans. This fungus creates reddish-brown blotches on growing leaves, weakening the plant and reducing yields. It has been found in South America, Asia and Africa.

Cops crossing the line?

MA SPRINGFIELD — The city's police chief has launched an internal investigation into a school principal's accusations of police brutality.

Douglas Greer, principal of Rob-



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

ert M. Hughes Academy Charter School, said that police officers abused him last week while he was having a diabetic attack.

Mayor Charles Ryan said Greer's accusations are "troubling" and said the officers involved should be placed on administrative duty for the duration of the investigation.

Ryan said the incident happened Thursday evening after Greer pulled his BMW into a convenience store parking lot when he felt a diabetic attack coming on.

The store clerk said he called police after Greer's car had been parked for more than an hour. The clerk said Greer didn't respond to knocks on the car window.

The clerk, Richard Congdon, told The Republican newspaper of Springfield that he saw police break the car window and pull Greer through after the principal didn't respond to their knocks.

Congdon said police held Greer on the ground, but did not see them kicking or punching him.

Pipeline to the top

AK ANCHORAGE — The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has filed suit against Alyeska Pipeline Services Co., claiming minority employees were passed over for promotions within the company in 2002.

The lawsuit alleges that Hispanic, Native and black employees in the contracts department at the

company's Anchorage headquarters were not promoted to jobs where they would work on procurement strategy because of their race or national origin.

The lawsuit asks the court to order Alyeska to give the employees back pay with interest, as well as punitive damages.

Alyeska, owned by five oil companies, runs the 800-mile trans-Alaska oil pipeline and Valdez tanker port and employs 858 people.

Only one employee, a Hispanic commercial auditor named Anthony Navarro, is named in the complaint, but EEOC attorneys claim the company also discriminated against others.

Coyote catchers

TX AUSTIN — Officials in two metropolitan areas are taking steps to remove coyotes from residential areas after they have been spotted on streets, in backyards and on porches in neighborhoods throughout Travis County and in the wealthy neighborhood of River Oaks in Houston.

Travis County and the city of Austin will finance a \$40,000 contract with the Texas Wildlife Services Program to cull the coyotes, the Austin American-Statesman reported Wednesday. The culling will be focused on the most aggressive animals that have lost their innate fear of humans, said Jeff Ripley of the Texas Cooperative Extension. The animals will be trapped and then euthanized.

Quake along border

UT SALT LAKE CITY — A magnitude 4.1 earthquake shook a sparsely populated area along the Utah-Colorado state line, and was felt about 60 miles away, the University of Utah's Seismographic Stations reported.

There were no immediate reports of damage. The epicenter of the earthquake late Saturday was in the Paradox Valley area, seven miles east of the state line and 16 miles southwest of the mining ghost town of Urvan, Colo., said Dr. Walter Arabasz.

State consolidation

VT MONTPELIER — Gov. James Douglas said Wednesday he wants to merge the state departments of Labor and Industry and Employment and Training into one Department of Labor.

He also announced that Transportation Secretary Patricia McDonald will move to the Employment and Training Department to lead the administration's effort to win legislative approval for the merger.

That's not voter aid

FL JACKSONVILLE — A newspaper mistakenly published the telephone number of a sex talk service on the front page on its Election Day issue. The number was supposed to be for a national voter hot line.

"We didn't follow our policy of calling the number before publishing it," said Pat Yack, editor of The Florida Times-Union.

Yack said as soon as the mistake was learned, a correction was published on the newspaper's Web site and in the paper.



Walking a thin line

From left, Tate Byrum, Brent Blades and Woody Rodgers take part in the stick walk contest, where three team members must walk in a coordinated fashion on two planks, during Pioneer Day in White Plains, Ky.



Trotting along
Billy Crego travels in his restored 1940s milk wagon, the last horse-drawn Lansing Dairy Co. milk wagon used for door-to-door deliveries, pulled by a percheron horse named Kalil near his family's home in Waterlawn Township, Mich.



Hitting the slopes

A skier races down a trail at the Killington Ski Area in Killington, Vt., on the opening day of skiing for the Eastern mountain resort.



Quite an ax Fender Musical Instruments Corp. public relations director Morgan Ringwald carries a 10-foot Stratocaster guitar across Jackson Street in Phoenix. Ringwald was breaking down the guitar from its display after a news conference introducing "Guitar Mania."



Time for patriotism First-graders Dylan Ferrier, left, and Abundio Ortiz show their respect during recital of the Pledge of Allegiance at a Veterans Day ceremony at Henley Elementary School in Klamath Falls, Ore.



Off you go Jerry Hugo, of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, releases an eagle near St. Maries, Idaho. The bird was injured in the late part of September and had been rescued by a local veterinarian.



Super-sized Santa Bryan Buquet, 3, right, of Dulac, La., reaches for a giant inflated Santa Claus as his mother, Stephanie Collins, sitting at left, and his grandmother, Mary Collins, not pictured, install the lawn decoration outside their Dulac, La.

Smoker shock

KY LEXINGTON — A Lexington radio station indefinitely suspended the hosts of its morning show Thursday after a hoax "report" that people could no longer smoke in their cars.

The hoax, broadcast on WXXZ-FM Wednesday, prompted hundreds of people to tie up phone lines to police, health departments, city hall and the county attorney's office.

WXXZ general manager Chris Clendenen said in a statement Thursday that the decision was made to suspend the hosts — identified only by on-air names Twitch, Mary Jane and Kyle — because the hoax caused such a disruption to city government.

Clendenen said he was sure that the hoax was "done with the best of intentions and that there was no malicious intent."

"I'm not sure we violated any laws or regulations," Clendenen said.

Strange stabbing

CA LONG BEACH — A woman was stabbed to death as officers waited for her to unlock a gate so they could search her yard for an intruder, police said.

The officers had asked Lynn Schockner, 50, to unlock the gate to her backyard Monday so they could investigate a neighbor's report of a possible intruder. She agreed and went inside the house to go to unlock the gate.

As two officers waited out front, another went to an alley near Schockner's backyard. He called on the radio to tell the officers he caught a man scaling Schockner's fence.

Schockner was found dead outside her back door.

The killing "hit the officers so hard we brought some counselors out," Cannan said.

Nicholas Harvey, 22, of Port Hueneme, was arrested on suspicion of murder. Harvey had a knife and jewelry when he was captured, Cannan said.

Parishioner won't go

MA WINCHESTER — A parishioner was arrested for refusing to leave a church targeted for closure by the archdiocese as part of a restructuring.

Gene Sweeney, 69, was charged with trespassing after he was removed Saturday night from Immaculate Conception Church in the Boston suburb of Winchester. He was released on \$40 bail.

Parishioners from at least eight churches are conducting sit-ins — some lasting as long as two months — to protest the archdiocese's plan to close or consolidate 82 of its 357 parishes. The restructuring was prompted in part by economic woes caused by the clergy sex abuse scandal.

The archdiocese has not disrupted the vigils, but Sweeney's arrest marked the first time a church official has had a parishioner forcibly removed.

Gas line approved

MI LANSING — A new gas-line pipeline could be built along Interstate 96 in south Lansing, despite the city's opposition, under legislation approved Wednesday by a Michigan House

committee.

The House Energy and Technology Committee voted 11-6 to send the bill to the full House, which was expected to vote on it later Wednesday.

Lansing officials have spent nearly three years fighting it, arguing any leaks could endanger the city's water supply and residents' safety.

Fighting snowmobiles

MT BILLINGS — Environmental groups have filed a lawsuit over the National Park Service's plan for allowing snowmobiles in Yellowstone National Park for the next three winters.

The environmentalists claim the government failed to take into account the effect that trails groomed for snowmobiles have on wildlife, particularly bison that travel the roads during the winter.

The lawsuit was filed last week in federal court in Washington, D.C., after the Park Service issued a "finding of no significant impact" for its winter snowmobile plans, an attorney said.

Pricey painting

NY NEW YORK — The Metropolitan Museum of Art has agreed to buy a tiny work by the early Renaissance master Duccio di Buoninsegna for what it said was its most expensive purchase ever, the museum announced Wednesday.

"Madonna and Child," painted in 1300, measures 8 inches by 11 inches, and is the first work by this important early 14th century artist in the Met's collection.

The Met would not disclose the price, but The New York Times Wednesday quoted anonymous art experts familiar with the deal as saying that the Met paid between \$45 million and \$50 million for the work.

Jilted jockeys

KY LOUISVILLE — Churchill Downs, home of the Kentucky Derby, said Monday it banned about a dozen jockeys from the rest of the fall meet after riders threatened to boycott upcoming races in a dispute over health insurance.

Some banished jockeys said the track can easily afford supplemental coverage for jockeys.

Churchill Downs President Steve Sexton said the protest threatened to cause a "disruptive" situation in the jockeys' dressing room as well as uncertainty over the availability of riders for races.

Hostage crisis

CA LOS ANGELES — A man demanding media attention took a female employee hostage at the Mexican consulate Tuesday before he was wounded by police outside the building. The hostage escaped unharmed.

The hostage-taker was in critical condition, police Chief William Bratton said.

A television videotape showed the black-clad man, his arm around the woman's neck, leave a parking lot exit and down a sidewalk as police closed in. The man suddenly collapsed backward to the ground and officers pulled the woman away as others pointed their guns at him.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

YOUR MONEY

Why used cars can be better

BY DIANA MCCABE

The Orange County Register

A shiny, new car that comes with \$3,000 cash back sounds like a great deal, and it's one shoppers are seeing a lot of this fall.

But if you want to buy an even better bargain, consider buying used, experts say.

Wary shoppers might shy away from a used car because they're worried about getting a clunker. But buyers can protect themselves from such troubles. And there's no better time to buy used than now, thanks in part to the effect of new-car rebates on the used-car market.

"We've had these incredible incentives of \$4,000

“New cars lose up to 20 percent of their value the minute you drive them off the lot.”

Philip Reed

Edmunds.com editor

to \$5,000 on some domestic (models),” said John Honiotes, vice president of dealer operations at Autobot, an Irvine, Calif., company that uses the Internet to hook up dealers with car shoppers. As car buyers pay less, those rebates “erode the value of the vehicle and the future value as well,” he said.

That's a benefit for used-car shoppers, too, because the value of used vehicles also drops, he said.

Philip Reed, consumer advice editor at Edmunds.com, which evaluates vehicles for shoppers, offers another compelling reason to consider a used car: You get more bang for your buck.

“New cars lose up to 20 percent of their value the minute you drive them off the lot,” he said. After a year, some cars depreciate as much as 35 percent. “Let someone else take the hit in depreciation and then buy the car a year or two later,” Reed said.

Many consumers, however, don't know where to start their search or what to look for in a used car.

So what's the single best way to buy used without sacrificing peace of mind? “Get a factory-certified vehicle,” Honiotes of Autobot advised.

These are the types of used cars you'll find when you visit a new-car dealership. Often called “pre-owned, factory-certified,” these vehicles have the manufacturer's guarantee behind them. That means no matter where you go—from Orange County, Calif., to Chicago to New York—the warranty is honored.

Factory-certified cars often have to meet certain criteria to get this backing from the manufacturer. Some manufacturers will only certify models five years

old or less, others six years. Mileage varies, too. One automaker might put the limit at cars with 50,000 miles, others 30,000.

These cars also are inspected, so you don't have to check them out with an independent mechanic. Inspections vary among manufacturers.

Some conduct a 140-point inspection, while others may offer a 128-point inspection. Typically, these inspections check things such as the depth of tire treads, brake pads and belt tensions. Consumers can ask to see the reports.

There are other types of certified cars, but experts say to be extra careful with these.

Some used-car lots—which sell different kinds of preowned cars—also may offer a certification, but this certification isn't from the manufacturer. The car lot is backing it up.

“If it is a reputable company, you might be OK,” Honiotes said.

But if you don't know the company, you're taking a risk, he and others say.

Generally, consumers would take the vehicle back to the lot for warranty. And sometimes the warranty is very short—possibly just 30 days.

Consumers should get the certification in writing before understanding what it covers before moving on with the purchase, Honiotes said.

Buying a vehicle with any certification adds to the cost of the vehicle, from \$500 to \$1,000.

Consumers don't have to go to a new-car dealership or used-car lot to find a good bargain. Reed favors buying from a private party.

“It can be a kinder and gentler buying experience when negotiating with an individual, Reed said.

For starters, the markup on the vehicle is usually a lot less than what consumers will find at dealerships or used-car lot, he said.

Professional salespeople look to make a profit, while individuals trying to sell a car on their own are usually trying to just get what the car is worth, Reed said.

“There's not as much game-playing in the negotiations,” he said.

Still, consumers may still feel a bit worried about buying what some would consider a hand-me-down.

“Cars have never been more reliable. If you can find one or two years car that's still a lot of life left in it,” Reed said.

SEE CARs ON PAGE 27



Surrounded by ingredients and finished products, 23-year-old Sarah Levy spreads dark chocolate out on a granite countertop for a candy she calls Dark Chocolate Delight in her parents' kitchen last month in Chicago. Levy, a former restaurant pastry chef, started her own business, “Sarah’s Pastries & Candies Inc.” at her parents’ home in March and started turning a profit last month.

The young and self-employed

Recent graduates find ways to be own boss

BY MARTHA IRVINE

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Sarah Levy loved being a restaurant pastry chef—but not the long hours, the relatively low pay, or the constant yelling that goes on in high-stress kitchens.

So this spring, the 23-year-old Chicagoan moved to a different kitchen—at her parents’ home—and launched her own business, Sarah’s Pastries & Candies Inc.

“I feel better when I’m working for myself and building a name for myself,” said Levy, who started turning a profit last month.

She’s one of the lucky ones; she got financial backing from her dad to help start the business. But she’s not alone in her decision to strike out on her own. A number of young people are doing the same, driven by everything from a wish for more flexibility to a chance to test their own ideas.

A few recent college graduates, including 22-year-old Noah Thomas, say the tough job market they encountered last spring also motivated them to create their own options. Thomas, who lives in Columbia, S.C., and graduated from the University of South Carolina with a degree in marketing and finance, spent about three months looking for a job with no luck.

“Nothing was happening for me,” Thomas says. “I didn’t hear back from a lot of people—I didn’t even know what happened to my résumés.”

So with a small amount of savings in his pocket, he started checking out less-expensive franchise options and bought into All About Honeycombs, a travel business that specializes in trips for newlyweds. As his business is getting off the ground, he’s also teaching an SAT prep course to supplement his income.

Nationwide, it’s difficult to estimate the number of young small business owners: The federal Small Business Administration does not keep statistics by age. But there are signs of growth. The Virginia-based Young Entrepreneurs’ Organization—a group founded in 1987 that requires \$1 million in annual sales before it will admit a business owner—now counts 95 U.S. members younger than 30 in its ranks.

And a first-time survey done this year by the National Association for the Self-Employed shows that about 15 percent of its members are in their 20s or early 30s.

Gene Fairbrother, a small business consultant at

the Texas-based nonprofit, says the percentage is significant because—even as recently as three years ago—young people rarely called for any sort of small-business advice.

“But not anymore,” says Fairbrother, who believes cutbacks in some job sectors have played a role. He also credits the growing number of university programs that focus on entrepreneurship.

That doesn’t mean self-employment is for everyone, says Stacey Mayo, an Atlanta-based certified career coach. Some people, she says, start researching a business of interest only to realize that they’d rather fine-tune their current career than deal with the headaches of long hours and the tough decisions a boss has to make.

Still, “it’s definitely worth exploring,” she says. Even if self-employment is not a long-term endeavor, it can be a way to stay afloat during a job search. That’s what 23-year-old Frank Strong learned after he got laid off from a startup public relations consulting firm in 2002.

“I resolved to learn what I could as a freelancer until the right opportunity came along,” says Strong, who lives in Arlington, Va., and now has a full-time job with a business communications firm—much to his relief.

Regardless, Ana Sanchez, a graphic artist and recent art school graduate, says she’d still rather have flexibility than job security.

“Freelancing keeps me on my toes,” says Strong, the 22-year-old New Yorker says. “It forces me to do my best work because I know that my next job depends on my performance.”

One McDoune agrees. He recently left the Web design job he got after graduating from Cornell University last year.

“I got dissatisfied with the rigid structure of the whole deal. There wasn’t enough room for my own expression,” he says.

McDonough now runs his own Web design firm, OffThePathMedia.com—mostly from his home base of New York. But he’s found that having his own Web-based business has another advantage: He can do it from just about anywhere. That allowed him to travel to Boston on short notice to gather around a TV with friends as the Red Sox won the World Series.

“That definitely would not be possible if I worked for a big corporation,” says McDonough who’s able to make a living—and has hired some freelancers to help with some jobs.

To our readers

Ralph Nelson will return soon with Susie Besaw and his MoneyU column. Stay tuned.

Sunday Horoscope

Delightful Venus passes regenerative lives like a mild electric shock — just enough to make us feel the need to reaffirm that we're with the right person, treating that person the right way, or doing the right thing to attract the right person. A scintillating idea about work is not solid enough yet to go on.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

(November 14). Your command of your own behavior is impressive. When you tell yourself to do something, you do it — and that's what makes the day so remarkable. By next month, you'll have pulled a major goal to you. Concentrate on building a team and increasing your "fan base" in December. You'll need all the help you can get in busy January.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Friends have a way of getting under your skin — in fact, you'll contemplate going "screamo," but it's really not worth it. Cool off by engaging in activities that offer you a fabulous sense of humor.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Your interesting behavior has you interested. It's your very attraction to someone that places you at the forefront of this person's mind. Though you're inclined to behave in the way that's expected of you, only do so if it's genuine.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

Putting yourself in the right environment is key to elevating your mood and getting you back in touch with humanity. Go where there's the potential to be rallied socially and spiritually. Pisses people can help.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

Your sophisticated way of pulling people closer to you (and yet still keeping them at exactly the distance that makes you feel in charge) is most effective. It's one of the rare days you can play games and get away with it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

You simply can't buckle down and get busy, then be mischievous and playful instead. Lightness and fluff are exactly what is needed to keep

spirits high for those around you. Look for the entertainment value in things.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Virgo has been gestating over a period of time is now ready to be born. But you still need to make

space in your life for this new arrival. Ask for support in clearing out an area, both physically and mentally.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

23). Some close makes a plea for help in his or her best interest — and not necessarily in yours. Luckily, you're wise enough to know the difference. Now, you've only got to be strong enough to do something about it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

You hear (ad nauseum) about the amazing accomplishments of others. There's no time to compare yourself and no benefit to be had by doing so, either. You're in a league of your own.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

21). Something happens that you can't control, and you'll be thankful for that! A Taurus who is on your side can help you see the opportunity in your situation. By nighttime, you'll find yourself smitten.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

19). You're feeling smug, well dressed and up to some unusual antics. There's hardly anything more attractive than a rebel on a secret mission, which is why you'll have your choice of company.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

You are both clever and maddeningly conservative. Friends try to persuade you into bad behavior but to no avail. Your independent streaks is in full swing. No one can distract you from your focus on what needs to be accomplished.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

Most people would find it difficult to balance 1.6 million things in their head at once, but you're not most people, and this is not like most days. Something creative and special comes out of this astounding mental activity.

Creators Syndicate

Holiday Mathis



For online dating partner, woman should give best shot

Dear Abby: I joined an online dating service six months ago. Although my family disapproved, I researched my options and found a reputable company.

After two months of meeting numerous nice people whom I would consider friends, I met a really special guy. We have been talking on the phone and e-mailing for four months. We have never met, nor have we exchanged pictures that look as

We wanted to get to know each other from the inside out. I've been finally decided to exchange pictures. I asked a friend to take my picture and was disappointed with the results. I know I look better. She says I'm being overly critical and the picture that I look just "OK" in, he's not worth it.

Shouldn't I attempt to send the best picture I can, even though he assures me that looks aren't everything? Don't I owe it to myself and him to look good — not just "OK"?

DEAR ANNIE: Not Great in Idaho

Dear OK: Listen to your head and not your girlfriend. Looks aren't everything, but they can be an asset. Go for it. professional photographer and have some pictures taken with

good lighting — both head shots and photos that show your figure. It's called putting your best foot forward. First impressions are important, so don't sell yourself short.

Dear Abby:

I am a freshman in high school. This guy I like is very sweet, but he has a girlfriend. He likes me a lot, too, but he doesn't want anyone to be hurt so he's reluctant to break up with her. I told him I won't wait forever, and he told me he's trying to get her to break up with him.

He doesn't accept her calls, doesn't take her anywhere, and has asked his friends to tell her bad things about him. She refuses to get the message.

How can we get the point across to her without hurting her more than necessary? Did I mention that he's sweet, sensitive, caring and cute?

In Love in Grand Rapids
Dear In Love: He may be sweet, sensitive, caring and cute, but the boy is also too immature to realize that his unwillingness to level with his girlfriend will hurt her more in the long run than telling her the truth. Unless he speaks up, the girl will continue to hang on because she has nothing to lose. The sooner she

hurts and heals, the sooner she can begin looking for someone who will truly care for her.

Now a word of caution to you: Watch carefully how he treats this girl, because chances are great that it's the way you will be treated one day.

Dear Abby: I am a nanny for twins who are now about 18 months old. I have a degree in education and specialize in preschool. Based on my experience with developmental milestones, it is quite obvious that one of the twins is hearing-impaired. I was hoping the pediatrician would notice it at their last physical, but that didn't happen. I don't know if it is my place to tell the mother, because I certainly wouldn't want to get her to the pediatrician she mention your observation to the doctor. You are a professional, and as such, your expertise would be shared with your employer. It's the responsible thing to do.

Dear Nannified in Ohio

Of course, I would certainly tell the mother that you are concerned about the child, and why. Suggest that during the child's next visit to the pediatrician she mention your observation to the doctor. You are a professional, and as such, your expertise would be shared with your employer. It's the responsible thing to do.

Letters for this column — with your name and home number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 6940, Ukiah, Calif. 95568. Please e-mail to Abby on the Internet at http://www.pittsburgh.com/dearabby. Universal Press Syndicate

Your wife should tell the rapy, not another man

Dear Annie: I am 23 years old, married for four years and have a 19-month-old daughter. About a year ago, my husband, "Nathan," began treating me badly, calling me names, not helping around the house and not taking care of his daughter like he should. All he did was complain and sleep.

When Nathan's attorney turned to his best friend, "Carl," "Now Carl and I have fallen in love, and we want to be together. Last weekend, he and I took a trip with my daughter. While we were away, Nathan bad-mouthed me to everyone in my family, and now they all hate me. They think I'm a bad mother. I don't want to be together with him because of his happiness than mine or my daughter's.

What about me being miserable for over a year? They see me cheating, but not the way Nathan treated me.

— Unhappy in Nashville, Tenn.

Dear Unhappy: Oh, you don't get off that easy. When a marriage is unsatisfying, the person you ask for help is a marriage counselor. You may have had a good reason to look elsewhere for emotional support, but it was

to seek comfort from another person. You are also unwittingly trying to punish Nathan by having an affair with his best friend.

Stop worrying about your family's opinions. You and Nathan married rather young, and you both were unprepared to deal with the realities of marriage and children. Please do not rush into another relationship. You owe it to your daughter to take the time to get it right.

Dear Annie:

I am a 13-year-old girl in eighth grade. My mom comes home from work an hour later than I do. She leaves a list of chores.

Annie, I have over two hours of homework every night. When Mom comes home, she expects everything to be done. I explained that I can't handle all this and she understood. She understood, but today she yelled at me because I wasn't changed out of my school uniform before dinner. Our friendship deepened, and our group was shocked when Mousy and I became engaged.

Over two decades, this woman has been my best friend and cheerleader, and she still thrills me in the bedroom. I wonder what would have happened if some well-meaning friend had told her to set her sights lower.

Someone's Prince Charming

Over two decades, this woman has been my best friend and cheerleader, and she still thrills me in the bedroom. I wonder what would have happened if some well-meaning friend had told her to set her sights lower.

Dear Stressed: Let's see if we can find a solution, starting with your bedtime. You are 13. Ask your parents if you can move your bedtime to 9. Then ask them to

help you make a schedule. Show them how long it takes to do homework, so they understand the time restrictions. Add clarinet practice and then see what's left over.

You're not going to get out of the club, but it's possible your folks could cut back a little.

Dear Annie:

I read the letter from "Speechless," who won't show up to her next birthday friend, "Brenda," that she isn't likely to attract good-looking men. In my college days, I was athletic and attractive. There was a mousy gal who never seemed to have a social life. I often shared with her my woes about my girlfriend-du-jour. Our friendship deepened, and our group was shocked when Mousy and I became engaged.

Over two decades, this woman has been my best friend and cheerleader, and she still thrills me in the bedroom. I wonder what would have happened if some well-meaning friend had told her to set her sights lower.

Someone's Prince Charming
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Be shipshape on directions

Why do sailors use the terms "port" and "starboard"? Why not just say "left" and "right" like the rest of us?

To those of us unfamiliar with nautical terminology, experienced sailors can seem to be speaking a different language, but words like "port" and "starboard" are not modern jargonistic inventions, created for the purpose of confounding landlubbers.

"Starboard," for example, can be traced to the Old English word "steorboard," which combines "steor," meaning "rudder" or "steering oar," and "board," meaning "ship's side." The word refers to the right side of a ship because of an early practice of steering by means of an oar held in the water

over the right side.

"Port" came about later (in the 17th century) as a replacement for "larboard," which sounded similar to "starboard" when called out as a command. The history of "port" is obscure. We don't know for sure if it evolved from the sense of "port" meaning "harbor or harbor town" or from the sense meaning "an opening in a vessel's side," but in either case we can speculate that early vessels with their steering apparatus on the right would have had reason to keep port to the left.

This column was prepared by the Editors of the Merriam-Webster Collegiate Dictionary, Tenth Edition. Readers may send questions to Merriam-Webster's Springfield, Mass. 01102.

Annie's Mailbox



Annie, I have over two hours of homework every night. When Mom comes home, she expects everything to be done. I explained that I can't handle all this and she understood. She understood, but today she yelled at me because I wasn't changed out of my school uniform before dinner. Our friendship deepened, and our group was shocked when Mousy and I became engaged.

Over two decades, this woman has been my best friend and cheerleader, and she still thrills me in the bedroom. I wonder what would have happened if some well-meaning friend had told her to set her sights lower.

Dear Stressed: Let's see if we can find a solution, starting with your bedtime. You are 13. Ask your parents if you can move your bedtime to 9. Then ask them to

Creators Syndicate

SPECIAL TO STARS AND STRIPES

Walter Scott's Personality PARADE®

Want the facts? Opinions? Truth? Write Walter Scott, Box 5001, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y. 10163-5001. Full name will be used unless otherwise requested. Volume of mail makes personal replies impossible.

Q Gwyneth Paltrow used to look pretty flat-chested, but in recent photos she is suddenly very well-endowed. Has she had breast enhancement? — Elizabeth Parker, Los Angeles, Calif.

A No — unless you count the enhancing effects of breast-feeding her 6-month-old baby girl, Apple.



Russell Crowe might play Moe in an upcoming film.

Q Any word on whom the Farrelly brothers might cast in their planned film on the Three Stooges? — Jerome Horowitz, West Hills, Calif.

A Bobby and Peter Farrelly — who wrote, produced and directed such gross-out comedies as "Dumb & Dumber" and "There's Something About Mary" — have their hearts set on Russell Crowe, 40, as Moe. The Farrellys are not kidding. And, believe it or not, Russell actually is interested. We second the motion. The surly Aussie would make a perfect Moe, the angriest Stooge. No word on their picks for Larry and Curly.



SH

Q I'm a big fan of the WNBA, which finished its season last month. How did the salaries of this year's top women draft picks compare with those of the NBA's male draftees? — LeRoy Lane, Little Rock, Ark.

A Poorly. The top 2004 WNBA draft picks — Diana Taurasi, Alana Beard, Nicole Powell and Lindsay Whalen, all 22 — collected rookie paychecks of \$40,800, compared to \$3.48 million for Dwight Howard, the top NBA draftee. The gap widens: The Lakers' Kobe Bryant stands to earn \$136 million over seven years, for example, while WNBA players had an \$87,000 salary cap this season.

Q So many child stars have unhappy adulthoods. How did Shirley Temple Black escape that fate? — Nathaniel Ono, Sun Valley, Calif.

A "I had a private tutor, Frances Klamp, whom I called 'Klammy,'" says Shirley, 76, who lives with her husband of 54 years in Woodside, Calif. "After foreign visitors came to the soundstage, she'd assign a week's worth of geography. I got interested in the world outside myself and eventually became U.S. ambassador to Ghana and Czechoslovakia."

OK, listen up: On the left is Miranda, from "Sex and the City." She does not really exist. On the right is Cynthia Nixon, the actress who plays Miranda. She is a real person. They are not the same. Got it? Good.

Q Cynthia Nixon, who was Miranda on "Sex and the City," reportedly is in a lesbian relationship. But didn't she kiss another woman on the show and say she didn't like it? — Jennifer L. Lancaster, Pa.

A Yes, but that was Miranda talking. Anyway, it's a woman's prerogative to change her mind.

Q Pauley Perrette, who plays forensic scientist Abby Sciuto on CBS' "Navy NCIS," has a number of tattoos. Are they real or the work of a makeup artist? — J. Valade, city unknown

A "I have nine tattoos," Pauley, 35, tells us. "My character has more." Her most visible TV tattoo, a large spider web on her neck, is a fake. While Abby often threatens to "show my new tat" to her older, conservative co-workers (actors Mark Harmon and David McCallum), Pauley remains coy about the location of her real-life body art.



KRT

Q Your item on Arnold Schwarzenegger made me wonder: How has his wife, Maria Shriver, adjusted to being the first lady of California? — Darlene L., Memphis, Tenn.

A She loves it. Maria, 49, exercises enormous influence over her husband. She's practically the co-governor of California. We hear that when Arnold, 57, had trouble getting some bills passed in the state capital of Sacramento, Maria called legislators and persuaded them to vote yes. It wouldn't surprise us if she ran for office one day.



KRT

Shriver: Future politician?

Q You recently ran your picks for the Top 10 Movie Themes of All Time. Have you gotten any criticism from readers? — Wallace Poulter, Windsor, Calif.

A Not much — though many had their own favorites. Here's a Top 10 List of Movie Themes From Our Mailbag: "Where Eagles Dare," by Ron Goodwin; "Dances With Wolves," by John Barry; "Gladiator," by Hans Zimmer; "Laura," by David Raksin; "Now, Voyager," by Max Steiner; "The Big Country," by Jerome Moross; "As Time Goes By," from "Casablanca," by Herman Hupfeld; "Three Coins in the Fountain," by Jule Styne; "Love Is a Many-Splendored Thing," by Sammy Fain; and "Over the Rainbow," from "The Wizard of Oz," by Harold Arlen.



AP

Elton John: Righteously indignant, or jealous?

Q Why did Elton John trash Madonna at Q magazine's music awards in London, where she was nominated for best live act? — Ashley K., Decatur, Ill.

A Sir Elton, 57, is prone to tantrums. (A documentary about him was called "Tantrums and Tiaras.") And, as the ultimate live performer, he resented that Madonna, 46, was being honored although she's believed to lip-synch during her act.

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CBS

Actress Pauley Perrette doesn't have quite as many tattoos as her character, Ducky, on "NCIS."

JAPAN TV (BILINGUAL, SPORTS, MOVIES AND MUSIC)

SUN, NOV. 14

Morning
10:00 "Shogi" Lesson/NHK Trophy Show Tournament (3)

Afternoon
12:00 "Go" Lesson/NHK Trophy "Go" Tournament (3)

12:00 The 26th Asian Ladies Alcar Series Game 1 (10)

12:55 Pro Ball: AON MLJ-Japan All-Japan Aerobics Championships (1)

2:15 Japan Aerobics Championships (1)

2:45 VISA-Summit Masters Golf: Final Round (6)

3:15 Grand Sumo: The 1st Day (1)

4:00 Iron Ladies Golf: Final Round (4)

4:45 International Beauty Pageant in Beijing (12)

5:30 Auto Racing: Japan GT Championship (12)

Evening
7:00 News (1)

7:30 British Movie (2002): Secret Society (15:04:42)

8:55 PGA Tour: 2004 Open de France Highlights (42)

9:00 Classical Music: NHK Symphony Orchestra - Schumann's Piano Concerto in A Minor, op. 10 No. 3 (10)

9:30 U.S. Movie (1996): Mission: Impossible (15:41:10)

WOWW

SUN, NOV. 14

Morning
7:45 U.S. Movie (2001): Mind Meets Body: Behind the Making of a Life (1:15)

4:00 U.S. Movie (1987): My Best Friend's Wedding (2:00)

Afternoon
2:00 U.S. Movie (1998): There's Something About Mary (2:00)

4:00 U.S. Movie (1987): My Best Friend's Wedding (2:00)

6:00 U.S. British Movie (1997): A Life in the Sun (1:15)

8:00 U.S. Movie (2002): Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle (1:57)

9:00 U.S. Movie (2002): The Sweetest Thing (1:52)

11:00 U.S. Movie (1997): John Lewis vs. Andrew Golda, etc. (1:35)

1:15 U.S. Movie (1978): Halloween II (1:35)

3:10 U.S. Movie (1981): Halloween II (1:35)

4:55 Spanish Soccer Liga Espanola

10:00 Classical Music: Music Information - Maxine Vengris - Violin/Pietro Mascagni's Opera "Cavalleria" - Opera "Cavalleria" (12:13:05)

12:15 Soccer: Serie A - Juventus vs. Fiorentina (3)

12:55 Grand Sumo Digest (1)

1:00 Japan Badminton Championship-90 (3)

4:00 Grand Sumo Digest (1)

MON, NOV. 15

Afternoon
12:30 CBS Crime Scene Investigation (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 2nd Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 News (1)

7:30 British Movie (2002): Secret Society (15:04:42)

8:55 PGA Tour: 2004 Open de France Highlights (42)

9:00 U.S. Movie (1996): Mission: Impossible (15:41:10)

TUE, NOV. 16

Afternoon
12:30 CBS Crime Scene Investigation (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 3rd Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 News (1)

7:30 British Movie (2002): Secret Society (15:04:42)

8:55 PGA Tour: 2004 Open de France Highlights (42)

9:00 U.S. Movie (1996): Mission: Impossible (15:41:10)

WED, NOV. 17

Afternoon
12:30 CBS Crime Scene Investigation (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 4th Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 News (1)

7:30 British Movie (2002): Secret Society (15:04:42)

8:55 PGA Tour: 2004 Open de France Highlights (42)

9:00 U.S. Movie (1996): Mission: Impossible (15:41:10)

THU, NOV. 18

Afternoon
12:30 CBS Crime Scene Investigation (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 5th Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 News (1)

7:30 British Movie (2002): Secret Society (15:04:42)

Evening
7:00 NHK News (1)

7:30 World Movie: Like About You (3)

10:00 News (1)

12:15 Grand Sumo Digest (1)

12:55 Ultimate Fighting: K-1 Dynamite Preview (6)

2:45 Australian Movie (2001): Crocodile Dundee in Los Angeles (15:04:42)

3:23 2004 Fuku Ladies Iceball (marathon relay) (8)

4:00 Grand Sumo Digest (1)

WED, NOV. 17

Afternoon
12:30 CBS Crime Scene Investigation (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 4th Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 News (1)

7:30 British Movie (2002): Secret Society (15:04:42)

8:55 PGA Tour: 2004 Open de France Highlights (42)

9:00 U.S. Movie (1996): Mission: Impossible (15:41:10)

THU, NOV. 18

Afternoon
12:30 CBS Crime Scene Investigation (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 5th Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 News (1)

7:30 British Movie (2002): Secret Society (15:04:42)

8:55 PGA Tour: 2004 Open de France Highlights (42)

9:00 U.S. Movie (1996): Mission: Impossible (15:41:10)

FRI, NOV. 19

Afternoon
12:30 CBS Crime Scene Investigation (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 6th Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 News (1)

7:30 British Movie (2002): Secret Society (15:04:42)

8:55 PGA Tour: 2004 Open de France Highlights (42)

9:00 U.S. Movie (1996): Mission: Impossible (15:41:10)

SAT, NOV. 20

Afternoon
12:30 CBS Crime Scene Investigation (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 7th Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 News (1)

7:30 British Movie (2002): Secret Society (15:04:42)

8:55 PGA Tour: 2004 Open de France Highlights (42)

9:00 U.S. Movie (1996): Mission: Impossible (15:41:10)

7:30 Disney (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 5th Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

Evening
7:00 NHK News (1)

9:00 U.S. Movie (1984): Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom (15:41:12)

10:00 News (1)

12:15 Grand Sumo Digest (1)

12:55 Ultimate Fighting: K-1 Dynamite Preview (6)

2:45 Australian Movie (2001): Crocodile Dundee in Los Angeles (15:04:42)

3:23 2004 Fuku Ladies Iceball (marathon relay) (8)

4:00 Grand Sumo Digest (1)

FRI, NOV. 19

Afternoon
12:30 CBS Crime Scene Investigation (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 6th Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 NHK News (1)

7:30 British Movie (2002): Secret Society (15:04:42)

8:55 PGA Tour: 2004 Open de France Highlights (42)

9:00 U.S. Movie (1996): Mission: Impossible (15:41:10)

SAT, NOV. 20

Afternoon
12:30 CBS Crime Scene Investigation (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 7th Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 NHK News (1)

7:30 British Movie (2002): Secret Society (15:04:42)

8:55 PGA Tour: 2004 Open de France Highlights (42)

9:00 U.S. Movie (1996): Mission: Impossible (15:41:10)

SUN, NOV. 21

Afternoon
12:30 CBS Crime Scene Investigation (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 8th Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 NHK News (1)

7:30 British Movie (2002): Secret Society (15:04:42)

8:55 PGA Tour: 2004 Open de France Highlights (42)

9:00 U.S. Movie (1996): Mission: Impossible (15:41:10)

MON, NOV. 22

Afternoon
12:30 CBS Crime Scene Investigation (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 9th Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 NHK News (1)

7:30 British Movie (2002): Secret Society (15:04:42)

8:55 PGA Tour: 2004 Open de France Highlights (42)

9:00 U.S. Movie (1996): Mission: Impossible (15:41:10)

TUE, NOV. 23

Afternoon
12:30 CBS Crime Scene Investigation (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 10th Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 NHK News (1)

7:30 British Movie (2002): Secret Society (15:04:42)

8:55 PGA Tour: 2004 Open de France Highlights (42)

9:00 U.S. Movie (1996): Mission: Impossible (15:41:10)

WED, NOV. 24

Afternoon
12:30 CBS Crime Scene Investigation (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 11th Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 NHK News (1)

7:30 British Movie (2002): Secret Society (15:04:42)

8:55 PGA Tour: 2004 Open de France Highlights (42)

9:00 U.S. Movie (1996): Mission: Impossible (15:41:10)

THU, NOV. 25

Afternoon
12:30 CBS Crime Scene Investigation (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 12th Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 NHK News (1)

7:30 British Movie (2002): Secret Society (15:04:42)

8:55 PGA Tour: 2004 Open de France Highlights (42)

9:00 U.S. Movie (1996): Mission: Impossible (15:41:10)

FRI, NOV. 26

Afternoon
12:30 CBS Crime Scene Investigation (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 13th Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 NHK News (1)

7:30 British Movie (2002): Secret Society (15:04:42)

8:55 PGA Tour: 2004 Open de France Highlights (42)

9:00 U.S. Movie (1996): Mission: Impossible (15:41:10)

SAT, NOV. 27

Afternoon
12:30 CBS Crime Scene Investigation (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 14th Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 NHK News (1)

7:30 British Movie (2002): Secret Society (15:04:42)

8:55 PGA Tour: 2004 Open de France Highlights (42)

9:00 U.S. Movie (1996): Mission: Impossible (15:41:10)

SUN, NOV. 28

Afternoon
12:30 CBS Crime Scene Investigation (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 15th Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 NHK News (1)

7:30 British Movie (2002): Secret Society (15:04:42)

8:55 PGA Tour: 2004 Open de France Highlights (42)

9:00 U.S. Movie (1996): Mission: Impossible (15:41:10)

MON, NOV. 29

Afternoon
12:30 CBS Crime Scene Investigation (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 16th Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 NHK News (1)

7:30 British Movie (2002): Secret Society (15:04:42)

8:55 PGA Tour: 2004 Open de France Highlights (42)

9:00 U.S. Movie (1996): Mission: Impossible (15:41:10)

TUE, NOV. 30

Afternoon
12:30 CBS Crime Scene Investigation (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 17th Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 NHK News (1)

7:30 British Movie (2002): Secret Society (15:04:42)

8:55 PGA Tour: 2004 Open de France Highlights (42)

9:00 U.S. Movie (1996): Mission: Impossible (15:41:10)

WED, NOV. 31

Afternoon
12:30 CBS Crime Scene Investigation (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 18th Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 NHK News (1)

7:30 British Movie (2002): Secret Society (15:04:42)

8:55 PGA Tour: 2004 Open de France Highlights (42)

9:00 U.S. Movie (1996): Mission: Impossible (15:41:10)

THU, NOV. 32

Afternoon
12:30 CBS Crime Scene Investigation (12)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 19th Day (1)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 NHK News (1)

TRIPES CLASSIFIED

Video 1020	Miscellaneous 1040	Miscellaneous 1040	Miscellaneous 1040
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Miscellaneous 1040

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'Green' buildinds allow workers to control climate

BY WILLIAM MCCALL
The Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — If workers feel a little chilly at their desks in one of the newest skyscrapers under construction in New York City, they'll be able to adjust the temperature with switches tailored to individuals, not entire floors or buildings.

The individual controls, expected to save millions of dollars in operational costs, are among the many new designs being incorporated into so-called "green" buildings, including the One Bryant Park building in the center of Manhattan that will be the new Bank of America headquarters.

The building will be a showcase for the U.S. Green Building Council, which is holding its national conference this week in Portland. It considered the "greenest" U.S. city by the council.

The council, established in 1993, promotes its "leadership in energy and environmental design" — or LEED — rating system as a voluntary national standard. Requests for LEED certification have rapidly expanded in the past few years, said council chairman Rick Fedrizzi.

Green technology can reduce costs by millions of dollars over the life of the building but "it doesn't cost a penny more than conventional construction," Fedrizzi said.

The One Bryant Park building, designed by Cook+Fox Architects of New York, will include floor-to-ceiling windows made of translucent insulating glass, a system to capture and reuse rain and wastewater, and roof gardens to reduce heat pollution.

Bob Fox, one of the chief architects, said the biggest savings could be in health care.

Sunlight for every level and office provides a psychological benefit while filtered ventilation built into floors instead of ceilings will provide individual temperature control and greatly reduce interior air pollution to improve overall health.

Construction and interior materials such as carpeting and plastic components will not contain high levels of volatile organic compounds — the trace amounts of potentially cancer-causing chemicals that help create the "new car smell" — typically found in such materials in the past. Fox said.

The building's operational costs are estimated at \$375 per square foot.

But if each worker increases productivity by just 1 percent — about five minutes a day — because of improved health and mood, it results in huge savings over time, Fox said.

The actual savings likely will approach 5 percent to 10 percent, he said, "because it will dramatically decrease sick days and increase productivity."

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The Pacific Forecast

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Tide Table

	Today	High Tide	Tomorrow
Mainland Japan			
Yokosuka	8:17 a.m.	6:23 p.m.	9:08 a.m.
Sasebo	11:26 a.m.	10:36 p.m.	12:16 p.m.
Korea			
Cheju Island/Sogwipo	12:06 p.m.	11:57 p.m.	12:47 p.m.
Korlan	4:07 a.m.	4:40 p.m.	4:49 a.m.
Okinae, Naha	8:24 a.m.	7:42 p.m.	9:13 a.m.
Guam, Apra Harbor	9:28 a.m.	7:46 p.m.	10:27 a.m.
Mainland Japan			
Yokosuka	1:05 a.m.	1:11 p.m.	1:46 a.m.
Sasebo	4:46 a.m.	5:11 p.m.	5:28 a.m.
Korea			
Cheju Island/Sogwipo	7:01 a.m.	7:38 p.m.	7:27 a.m.
Korlan	11:00 a.m.	11:37 p.m.	11:41 a.m.
Okinae, Naha	1:48 a.m.	1:57 p.m.	2:31 a.m.
Guam, Apra Harbor	2:22 a.m.	2:48 p.m.	3:08 a.m.

*For tides at other sites apply minutes before to Naha tides:
 Sukku, On Wan -39, Sasebo Brodie +11 high and low tide
 Uten Ko: -7 high, -8 low, Yonabaru, Buckner Bay -44 high, -42 low.

SEoul
 Today 49/53
 Cool; bit of rain
 Monday 42/22
 Chilly, mostly sunny

SHANGHAI
 Today 63/48
 Some drizzle, rain
 Monday 54/44
 Clouds and sun

North Korea
 Today 52/39
 Varyingly cloudy; some showers;
 Monday 55/31
 Some showers; gusty

South Korea
 Today 59/54
 Times of rain and drizzle
 Monday 56/53
 Still a chance of showers; gusty

TOKYO
 Today 64/57
 Cloudy with some rain; a t-storm
 Monday 64/47
 Partly sunny and breezy

OSAKA
 Today 68/77
 Sun
 Monday 66/75
 A few showers

OKINAWA
 Today 62/71
 Partly sunny, warm
 Monday 71/65
 Spotty showers; breezy

GUAM
 Today 88/77
 Sun
 Monday 86/75
 A few showers

KWAJALEIN
 Today 89/73
 Partly sunny
 Monday 89/73
 Stray showers; sun

BANGKOK
 Today 85/75
 Stubborn heat wave
 Monday 91/75
 Chance of a t-storm

HONG KONG
 Today 82/69
 Hazy, warm and sticky
 Monday 73/61
 Mostly cloudy

MANILA
 Today 89/73
 Partly sunny
 Monday 89/73
 Mostly sunny

SINGAPORE
 Today 86/76
 Scattered downpours
 Monday 88/76
 Some showers; thunder

As of 7 a.m. Saturday, Tokyo time

Extended Forecasts

TOKYO

Tuesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 60, low 48.
Wednesday: Partly sunny, high 59, low 51.

KADENA

Tuesday: Mostly cloudy, high 75, low 65.
Wednesday: Periods of rain and sunshine, high 77, low 69.

SEOUL

Tuesday: Partly sunny, high 46, low 31.
Wednesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 50, low 33.

MANILA

Tuesday: Partly sunny, high 89, low 73.
Wednesday: Partly sunny, high 87, low 71.

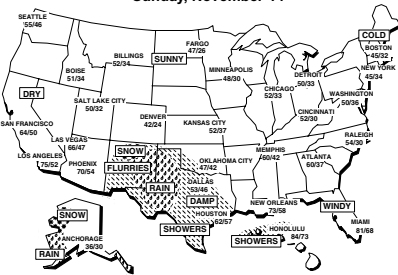
HAGATNA

Tuesday: Showers,
high 86, low 77.
Wednesday: Showers,
high 88, low 77.

Friday's USA Temperatures

CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW
Buquerque	83/06	Los Angeles	69/09
Amarillo	47/30	Little Rock	52/38
Anchorage	37/30	Louisville	54/34
Albany	58/41	Madison	54/34
Baltimore	48/39	Milwaukee	45/29
Birmingham	66/46	Nashville	52/49
Bismarck	48/20	New York	46/63
Boston	41/31	Omaha	42/30
Brownsville	73/58	Orlando	48/34
Buffalo	43/26	Philadelphia	48/36
Butte	42/26	Phoenix	72/52
Charleston, SC	59/48	Pittsburgh	46/36
Charlotte	59/49	Portland, OR	50/42
Chattanooga	74/58	Portland, ME	54/28
Cincinnati	47/30	Portland, LA	51/32
Columbus, OH	47/30	St. Louis	52/32
Duluth	40/16	San Antonio	62/47
El Paso	64/41	San Diego	66/56
El Paso	64/41	San Juan	84/24
Helena	43/19	Tampa	62/66
Indianapolis	49/27	Tulsa	54/34
Jacksonville	80/60	Washington	49/38
Jacksonville	80/60	Wichita	51/34

Sunday, November 14



U.S. Extended Forecast

An upper-level disturbance will spread some rain from Arizona into western and southern Texas on Sunday. Snow will fall over the mountains of Arizona, but will mix with the rain during the morning over New Mexico and the Texas Panhandle. The storm system will also spark flurries over the Colorado Rockies and western Nebraska. Showers will accompany a cold front approaching the Northwest. Besides some showers forming over Florida, the rest of the nation will enjoy a dry end to the weekend as two areas of high pressure dominate. Through the beginning of next week, dry weather will persist in the East, while the storm system in the Southwest continues to impact Texas.

Sunday's Pacific Temperatures

CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY
Bangkok	95/78	Iwakuni	62/56	Sasebo NB
Beijing	50/28	Kadena AB	82/71	Sapporo
Camp Casey	50/34	Kunsan AB	53/40	Seoul
Christchurch	69/51	Kwajalein	89/79	Shanghai
Diego Garcia	94/76	Manila	89/73	Singapore
Ugaitna	88/77	Misawa AB	55/37	Sydney
Hanoi	87/71	Osan	50/35	Taegu
Hong Kong	82/69	Perth	84/67	Taipei
Hongkhu	84/73	Pusan	66/47	Tokyo

Sunday's World Temperatures

CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW
Acapulco	40/75	Budapest	39/29	Kabul	62/28	Nairobi	76/53
Athens	73/57	Buenos Aires	70/55	Kiev	54/37	New Delhi	87/55
Auckland	68/54	Cairo	91/72	Kuwait	75/51	Oslo	41/40
Baghdad	81/55	Cancun	81/70	London	43/39	Paris	40/29
Baharba	81/55	Chong Town	81/55	Madrid	51/42	Seoul	49/24
Barcelona	67/53	Geneva	35/27	Mexico City	70/50	Rome	49/24
Berlin	74/52	Istanbul	75/60	Montreal	40/28	St. Petersburg	39/27
Bermuda	41/38	Jerusalem	79/63	Mogadishu	69/75	Stockholm	32/28



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Seminoles slog to ugly win

Punts outnumber first downs in 17-10 triumph

BY KEITH PARSONS
The Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Lorenzo Booker broke through the middle and picked up 14 yards. He came up 4 yards short of a first down on the run late in the second quarter, but it finally gave Florida State more yards than plays.

It was that kind of night against what Booker called the best defense he has faced this season.

"Better than Miami's, better than Virginia's," Booker said. "I say that because they were everywhere. It was like you break a tackle or get outside, and there are three more guys coming."

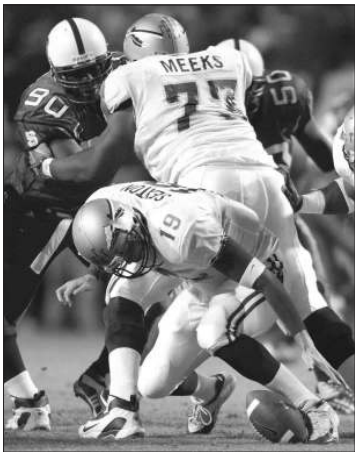
He and James Coleman each ran for third-quarter touchdowns, helping the 11th-ranked Seminoles rally past North Carolina State 17-10 Thursday night in a game that featured 22 punts, four turnovers and less than 250 yards of combined offense.

Last season, these two teams went to double overtime and Florida State prevailed 50-44. It seems a lot longer than a year ago in a lot of ways.

On Thursday, the Seminoles (8-2, 6-2 Atlantic Coast Conference) went deep into the second quarter before Booker's run gave them 38 yards on 30 plays. Wyatt Sexton finished 5-for-18 for only 73 yards, and leading rusher Leon Washington was held to 56 yards on 18 carries after missing the previous two games with a shoulder injury.

The only thing that kept Sexton on the field was an injury to backup Chris Rix, who had a sore ankle and likely would have had a tough time evading the pressure.

"If Chris had his wheels, I probably definitely would have (changed quarterbacks)," Florida State coach Bobby Bowden said.



Florida State quarterback Wyatt Sexton (19) fumbles the snap Thursday night at Raleigh, N.C. The teams combined for 234 total yards.

"Because we were getting sacked so much, I feel like we've got to have a quarterback that can move around."

Still, it was enough. The lone touchdown for the Wolfpack (4-6, 3-5) came on Darrell Blackman's 87-yard punt return in the second quarter that gave them a 10-0 lead. But even though they rotated quarterbacks, they couldn't generate offense after halftime.

They had only one first down — fittingly, on a pass-interference penalty — and 26 yards in the final two periods. Jay Davis and Marcus Stone were a combined 9-for-25 for 100 yards as former N.C. State star quarterback Philip Rivers watched from the sideline.

Boston Red Sox outfielder Trot Nixon, whose wife attended N.C. State, joined Rivers, but even he couldn't provide the necessary karma to help the Wolfpack. They weren't going to a bowl for the first time in five seasons under coach Chuck Amato.

"Things happen for a reason, and we'll learn from this and improve," he said. "I'm proud of our

kids for being in that game and being in a position to win at the end."

After spending the entire first half on its own side of midfield, Florida State started all five of its drives in the third quarter in N.C. State's territory. Coleman capped the first one with a 1-yard plunge to make it 10-7, and after a three-and-out by the Wolfpack, FSU needed to drive only 35 yards for the go-ahead score.

Sexton completed a 25-yard pass to Booker on third and 6 to set up first and goal, and a play later, Booker raced in from the 4 to give Florida State a 14-10 lead.

Gary Cismesia added a 44-yard field goal late in the quarter to complete the scoring. The kick came after a fumble by N.C. State tailback T.A. McLendon gave the Seminoles the ball at the 15. Three plays lost 11 yards before Cismesia's kick.

"I've never been involved with a game like this," Amato said. "We had the field position in the first half, and then they had it in the second half. Without a doubt, it was a defensive struggle."

See summary on Page 38.

Unrest: Paterno's legacy marred by losing trend

UNREST, FROM BACK PAGE

"I think he'll never stop down," said former Penn State defensive end Michael Haynes, now with the Chicago Bears. "Right now we're having some issues, but it's still all fixable."

A bronze statue of Paterno greets visitors to Beaver Stadium. There he is, looking spry, pointing toward the sky with his jacket flown open and the whipped around as if hit with the wind of another brisk football Saturday.

Engraved near a wall of plaques to the left of the statue is a Paterno quote: "They asked me what I'd like written about me when I'm gone. I hope they write I've made Penn State a better place, not just that I was a good football coach."

Those stories will certainly be written one day. But JoePa most certainly can't wait what's been written now.

One anonymous paid \$350 to take out a half-page ad in the student newspaper's gameday edition which read: "The talent's there. The coaching is an abomination."

TIME FOR JOE TO GO.

"All I was trying to do was focus some of the dissent I'm hearing all over the place in a way people can see it and read it readily," said Joseph Koresk, who said he's been to every home game since 1967 except for a three-year stint in Ohio. "A few have said it was too harsh, but the vast majority think it's time for a change. A lot of people have been more forgiving and say he should go out on his own terms. Whatever good will he's generated ran out at the end of the '02 season."

The stadium holds over 100,000 people — a small city, really — and they want results or a new leader.

Penn State athletic director Tim Curley, who gave Paterno the extension before the season, did not return repeated phone calls for comment. However, students are beginning to speak out.

"I think we need a new coach, but I don't think we can fire him,"

senior David Benson said. "He's done so much for the university. But we need a change."

A recent column in the student newspaper even suggested — gasp! — that Paterno is being selfish by staying.

"This season is simply about him proving to himself that he can do what he could 20 years ago. There doesn't seem to be a great concern for others," wrote junior Wade Malcolm.

Paterno said he receives support from fans and former players who call and write him letters.

And so far, he's has shown he can still recruit. His latest class was rated among the nation's top 20 by most analysts.

Still, the losing has affected his confidence.

"Yeah, I get shaky once in a while," Paterno said. "I would be less than honest if I told you I didn't. That doesn't mean that I lose faith."

Linebacker guard Charles Rush said Paterno tries to maintain a family atmosphere to keep the team close.

"I wouldn't have expected to go through these losing seasons like I have," Rush said. "For the football aspect, it's been kind of bad."

Paterno publicly protects his players and assistant coaches from criticism, focusing on how everything would have been different but for a play here, a play there.

His supporters worry an unwelcome footnote — but stay around too long — is being added to JoePa's legacy.

"If he can't be remembered for his greatness, not only is it sad, it's disastrous," former Penn State broadcaster Fran Fisher said. "It's disturbing to me to see some of the people I've talked to not be more understanding."

Paterno says he's still coaching because he doesn't want to leave the team when it's down.

"I have never thought on this thing for the glory or anything like that. I've never thought I don't need to take another trip around the track."

Utah, Texas in BCS battle

BY CHRIS DUFRESNE
Los Angeles Times

It is disturbing to think that the decisive factor as to whether Texas or Utah will go to a \$14-million bowl might be determined by writers with personal biases and voting coaches with an economic stake.

Utah (9-0) needs to finish No. 6 or better in the final BCS standings to become the first team from a non-BCS conference to make a major bowl.

This week, however, Texas (8-1) moved into the No. 6 BCS position and knocked Utah to No. 7. Texas, despite having one loss, is ranked ahead of Utah in the writers' and coaches' polls and will almost assuredly get the BCS at-large spot unless Utah is a "must take."

If it boils down to Utah versus Texas, consider this: Seven of the

61 coaches who vote in the USA Today/ESPN poll are from the Big 12 Conference (the Mountain West has four voting coaches).

If Texas gets the BCS bid instead of Utah, the Big 12 gets to split additional revenue earned from placing a second team in a BCS game.

So, you may ask, which way do you think the Big 12 voting coaches might be leaning?

Craig Thompson, the Mountain West Conference commissioner who is fighting for Utah's inclusion, does not believe in conspiracy theories but does think the Utah-Texas scenario accentuates the problem of giving more weight to the human polls in the new BCS formula.

"A computer doesn't care," Thompson said. "It has no idea what color jerseys are being worn, where in the two opinion polls that does come into play."

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1. (97) Kurt Busch, Ford.
2. (24) Jeff Gordon, Chevrolet.
3. (8) Dale Earnhardt Jr., Chevrolet.
4. (44) Jimmie Johnson, Chevrolet.
5. (6) Mark Martin, Ford.
6. (20) Tony Stewart, Chevrolet.
7. (12) Ryan Newman, Dodge.
8. (38) Elliott Sadler, Ford.
9. (17) Matt Kenseth, Ford.
10. (19) Jeremy Mayfield, Dodge.
11. (42) Jamie McMurray, Dodge.
12. (88) Dale Jarrett, Ford.
13. (9) Kasey Kahne, Dodge.
14. (29) Ben Handrick, Chevrolet.
15. (18) Bobby Labonte, Chevrolet.
16. (2) Rusty Wallace, Dodge.
17. (15) Michael Waltrip, Chevrolet.
18. (01) Joe Nemechek, Chevrolet.
19. (16) Greg Biffle, Ford.
20. (40) Sterling Marlin, Dodge.
21. (30) Jeff Burton, Chevrolet.
22. (43) Casey Mears, Dodge.
23. (31) Robby Gordon, Chevrolet.
24. (3) Carl Edwards, Ford.
25. (1) Terry Labonte, Chevrolet.
26. (22) Ricky Rudd, Ford.
27. (14) Brian Vickers, Chevrolet.
28. (22) Scott Wimmer, Dodge.
29. (77) Brendan Gaughan, Dodge.
30. (0) Mike Bliss, Chevrolet.
31. (10) Scott Riggs, Chevrolet.
32. (43) Jeff Green, Dodge.
33. (48) Ken Schrader, Dodge.
34. (45) Kyle Petty, Dodge.
35. (22) Bobby Hamilton Jr., Chevrolet.
36. (72) Kirk Shelmerdine, Ford.
37. (41) Mike Wallace, Chevrolet.
38. (50) Todd Bodine, Dodge.
39. (58) Randy LaJoie, Ford.
40. (89) Morgan Shepherd, Dodge.
41. (02) Hermie Sadler, Chevrolet.
42. (09) Johnny Sauter, Dodge.
43. (30) Mario Gosselin, Ford.
44. (77) Kevin Lepage, Dodge.
45. (98) Dennis Cox, Ford.
46. (00) Carl Long, Dodge.
47. (14) John Andretti, Ford.
48. (86) Travis Kvapil, Dodge.

No rain on Busch parade

Qualifying rainout hands points leader front-row start

BY MIKE HARRIS
The Associated Press

DARLINGTON, S.C. — The contenders for the Nextel Cup championship moved to the front of the field without turning a lap Friday at Darlington Raceway.

Rain washed out qualifying for the Southern 500, forcing NASCAR to set the grid for Sunday's race by car owner points. That put Kurt Busch, Jeff Gordon, Dale Earnhardt Jr., Jimmie Johnson and Mark Martin — separated by just 104 points — at the front of the 43-car field.

"That was a heck of a lap for us today," said Busch, who hasn't started from the pole since the season finale at Homestead in 2002. "It was a real good break for us."

Busch leads Gordon by just 41 points with two races remaining in the 10-man, 10-race Chase for the Cup playoff-style championship. Starting from the front gives Busch an edge in the race for the five-point bonus awarded to the driver leading a lap as well as the five points that go to the car which leads the most laps.

"It's definitely a great opportunity for us," Busch said. "But having all of the drivers in the Chase right up front, everybody's going to want to lead a lap quickly."

"But we'll all live up to the gentleman's agreement and all file into the first turn single file and see how things shake out and who has the best setup and can get the advantage."

Gordon, a four-time series champion and six-time Darlington winner, said he won't be too daring at the start.

"It's really risk versus gain," he said. "If it's not a super risky move to do it, I'd love to have those five bonus points."

"But I'll have nine other guys around me who want those points. If it looks too dicey, I'll let them go. I want to win the race."

Even though he has had considerable success on the narrow 1.366-mile oval — nicknamed the "Track Too Tough to Tame" — Gordon doesn't believe he has an advantage.

"Everything is unpredictable right now," he said. "You can get in trouble without really trying at this place. You're going to have to be race smart here. It will be interesting to see who stays smart and doesn't make the big mistake here."

The Cup drivers did get a chance to practice earlier Friday, and Earnhardt made a mistake during the session that could

have been costly. He hit the wall between turns one and two hard enough to knock his breath out for a few minutes.

His team quickly brought out a backup car and Earnhardt was able to get in a few laps before the practice ended.

"I don't really know what happened," he said. "I just ran out of racetrack, got a little out of the groove and ran up into the fence. The consolation is that it happened early enough that I did get some laps in the backup car."

Because the crash took place before the scheduled qualifying, Earnhardt will not have to start from the rear of the field despite moving to a backup car.

"Obviously, it's a break to start up front," he said. "But, one way or another, it would be just fine. It's such a long race, in 40 or 50 laps everybody will be somewhere else anyway. But I'd like to make the best of the opportunity and keep track position all day."

It is the closest five-way title competition in NASCAR history.

"For all of us, it's the most intense championship battle I've ever seen," Gordon said. "All of us have a little bit of edginess knowing that every lap is so crucial. These last two races are going to be really interesting and fun."



Dale Earnhardt Jr. waits in vain for the rain to stop on Friday at Darlington Raceway. Qualifying for Sunday's race was washed out.

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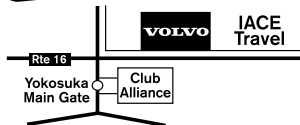
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Forget fast start; Vikings anxious to avoid a swoon

BY DAVE GOLDBERG
The Associated Press

After opening 5-1, the Minnesota Vikings have lost two straight, a scary portent for a team that won its first six a year ago, then lost seven of its last 10.

Especially scary because the Vikings go this week to Green Bay, which now trails them by only a game in the NFC North.

"It's a different type of team," coach Mike Tice says when the comparison is raised to previous slides by the Vikings. "I think this

team has more character." The Packers are favored by four points.

The teams have split the past two seasons, with Minnesota winning last year on opening day at Lambeau Field, not surprising for a team that tends to start fast.

Green Bay started slowly again this year, losing four of five, including three home losses. The Packers now have won three straight and were off last week to heal the wounds, most notably quarterback Brett Favre's bruised thumb.

The Vikings, on the other hand, will be without Randy Moss again. After trying to play with his sore hamstring in the two previous games, Moss missed Monday night's 31-28 loss in Indianapolis and will rest his leg again on Sunday.

Moss has been the difference in some big victories in Green Bay. Without him ... **PACKERS, 27-21.**

Pittsburgh (minus 3½) at Cleveland: The opening line on this game was 5½ and the early money on the Browns is a product of the obvious: a feeling the Steelers will let down after becoming the first NFL team ever with consecutive victories over unbeaten opponents this late in the season. Bill, in a historic rivalry, gave the letdown for later. ... **STEELERS, 21-10.**

Philadelphia (minus 6½) at Dallas (Monday night): The Eagles' loss in Pittsburgh put southeast Pennsylvania and south Jersey into panic mode. Take a lesson from the Patriots. ... **EAGLES, 40-22.**

Tampa Bay (plus 3½) at Atlanta: If anyone can challenge the Falcons in the NFC South, it's probably the Bucs, who have played more offense with Brian Griese at quarterback. The Falcons are rested, but haven't played very well at home. ... **BUCS, 17-16.**

St. Louis (plus 1) at St. Louis: The Rams sent the Seahawks on a three-game skid when they met in Seattle. The Rams are skidding now. ... **SEAHAWKS, 31-30.**



AP

Daunte Culpepper will guide Minnesota's offense on Sunday at Green Bay's Lambeau Field.

Buffalo (plus 8) at New England: In winning 22 of their past 23, the Patriots have won only twice by more than 14 points. One was last week and one was 31-0 in this game last season. ... **PATRIOTS, 27-20.**

Baltimore (minus 1½) at New York Jets: Quincy Carter, who replaces injured Chad Pennington, will need his mobility against the Ravens' defense. ... **RAVENS, 17-9.**

Chicago (off) at Tennessee: The off is for Steve McNair's bruised chest. With a week off, he should play and do better than Kurt Warner did against the Bears last week. ... **TITANS, 20-9.**

Houston (plus 9½) at Indianapolis: Indianapolis doesn't stop anyone well enough to win by 9½. ... **COLTS, 31-26.**

Detroit (plus 3) at Jacksonville: Tough to figure with Leftwich out. ... **JAGUARS, 9-7.**

Kansas City (minus 4½) at New Orleans: Talk about no defense. ... **CHIEFS, 45-42.**

New York Giants (minus 2½) at Arizona: The Cardinals are decent at home. No Strahan for the Giants. ... **CARDINALS, 22-20.**

Cincinnati (plus 3) at Washington: Clinton Portis might not throw this week, but he should run forever against the Bengals' defense. ... **REDSKINS, 20-13.**

Carolina (plus 1) at San Francisco: Rattay will put up points. ... **49ERS, 30-26.**

Last week: 7-7 (spread), 8-6 (straight up).

Season: 67-61-2 (spread), 84-46 (straight up).



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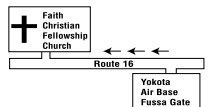
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Browns to honor former player killed in Vietnam

The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — The Cleveland Browns will pay tribute Sunday to a former player who died in the Vietnam War and was unrecognized by the NFL for decades.

It has long been reported that Bob Kalski, a Buffalo Bills linebacker, was the only former NFL player killed in Vietnam.

But it recently came to the attention of the Pro Football Hall of Fame that Air Force Maj. Don Steinbrunner, a rookie offensive tackle with the Browns in 1953, died in Vietnam in 1967.

Steinbrunner, who joined the Air Force ROTC while at Washington State, was called to active duty after his rookie season. After a two-year tour as a navigator, he decided not to return to the Browns.

He remained in the Air Force for 13 years and spent four seasons as an assistant coach at the Air Force Academy.

He began his tour of duty in Vietnam in 1966. As a navigator with the 12th Air Command Squadron, he was shot down over Kontum Province, South Vietnam.

The Browns are asking all military veterans to come to Sunday's game against Pittsburgh in uniform.

Steinbrunner will be represented at the game by his widow, Meredyth, and their three children.

"I cannot explain to you what a thrill this is for me and my family," Meredyth said. "We are so honored to have this wonderful event in honor of Don."

McNair limited to one drill

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Tennessee quarterback Steve McNair only took part in a seven-on-seven drill Thursday, but coach Jeff Fisher is hoping the quarterback can do some more work Friday.

"He is a little better," Fisher said. "He was a little sore this morning from what he did yesterday, but he loosened up in the training room and he got out and moved around and threw the ball."

McNair still has soreness after bruising his chest twice in five games, the latest on a hit on Oct. 24 in a loss to Minnesota.

Fisher said he would like to pick up the work on Friday, but that the practice will have to be divided differently as the Titans get closer to Sunday's game with Chicago.

Running back Chris Brown also didn't practice, but Fisher said he hopes he might work Friday. Brown has not practiced since hurting his left big toe in the same game that McNair was hurt.

Bears QB Krenzels gets in full practice, ready to go

LAKE FOREST, Ill. — Craig

NFL Briefs

Krenzels practiced Thursday and is set to play Sunday against Tennessee despite bruised ribs.

"As I said yesterday, I felt like he would be OK," Bears coach Lovie Smith said. "He was a little sore yesterday ... I feel good always seeing our quarterbacks complete passes."

Krenzels, a fifth-round draft pick out of Ohio State, has won his first two starts.

Smith said he's also hoping to have running back Thomas Jones back. Jones injured his toe two games ago.

"Right now, we're trying to get him back to a position where he can be sure play," Smith said. "He practiced, but we're still monitoring how he really feels. He's not 100 percent right now."

Anthony Thomas will start if Jones can't go.

Vikings WR Moss officially out for Green Bay game

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — If Minnesota Vikings coach Mike Tice was playing mind games with the Green Bay Packers about the availability of Randy Moss, he ended them Thursday.

The Vikings officially downgraded the All-Pro receiver from doubtful to out for Sunday's game at Green Bay, a day after Packers coaches and players expressed doubt that Moss would actually sit out the key NFC North matchup.

Moss, who hadn't missed a game in his seven-year career until Monday's 31-28 loss at Indianapolis, strained his right hamstring Oct. 17. He hobbled through 11 plays in two taken starts before agreeing to undergo an MRI exam and begin rehabilitation last week.

The Vikings hope Moss will be close to full speed for their game Nov. 28 against Jacksonville.

Bucs safety Phillips agrees to \$9 million extension

TAMPA, Fla. — Buccaneers safety Jerome Phillips agreed to a four-year, \$9 million contract extension with a \$1 million signing bonus.

He was in the third year of a \$1 million contract signing in 2002. He was to make \$380,000 this season, but with the new deal he will earn \$1.13 million in base salary. He will make \$450,000 in 2005, \$1.35 million in 2006, \$1.75 million in 2007 and \$2.05 million in 2008, according to the NFL Players Association.

"I think I have been working hard, and evidently they feel so, too," Phillips said Thursday. "It's just a thank you from them."

Phillips is third on the team with 61 tackles and has one sack and one interception.

Main man is missed

Mississippi St. struggles in opener as Roberts sits

The Associated Press

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Mississippi State coach Rick Stansbury wouldn't use the absence of Lawrence Roberts as an excuse for the 12th-ranked Bulldogs' close call against Fairfield on Thursday night in the opening round of the Coaches vs. Cancer Classic.

"It's very obvious that we're not quite as good without Lawrence Roberts," Stansbury said after Mississippi State survived a scare with a 53-49 victory over the Stags. "But we knew coming into this game that we didn't have him, so we can't make any excuse."

Roberts, a senior All-American forward and last year's Southeastern Conference player of the year, sat out a one-game suspension from the NCAA for accepting expenses to attend a tryout before the NBA Draft. He subsequently repaid the money.

Reserve Ontario Harper scored 17 points for the Bulldogs, who trailed by as many as eight in the first half.

Mississippi State will play Birmingham-Southern on Friday night in the second round of the 16-team, four-site event. Birmingham-Southern beat Alabama A&M 79-69 on Thursday.

Mississippi State missed its first eight shots and shot just 29 percent in the first half, including one of eight from three-point range, as Fairfield took a 24-16 lead 90 seconds before halftime. The Bulldogs cut it to 24-20 at the break.

Birmingham-Southern 79, Alabama A&M 69: Jakob Sigurdson scored 24 points and Thomas Vigilance had 11 points and 16 rebounds for Birmingham-Southern.

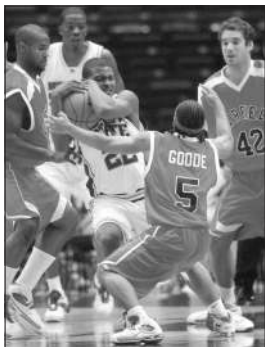
No. 6 Syracuse 104, North Carolina 54: At Syracuse, N.Y., Hakim Warrick had 19 points, 10 rebounds and five assists for Syracuse, which scored the first 24 points of the game against Northern Colorado, in only its second season back in Division I.

Gerry McNamara, who finished with 11 points and five assists, hit two straight three-pointers and a fast-break layup and Warrick, a preseason All-American, had six points to pace the early surge.

Syracuse will play Princeton on Friday night.

Princeton 61, Bucknell 48: At Syracuse, the Tigers got 21 points from Luke Owings, including 16 points and three three-pointers in the first half.

No. 24 Memphis 102, Savannah St. 40: At Memphis, Tenn., Rodney Carney scored 21 points and the Tigers had six players in double figures. Carney was seven of 12 from the field, including three of five from three-point range, for the Tigers (1-0), who face a second-round game Saturday night against George Mason.



Mississippi State's Dietric Slater (22) protects the ball against the defensive effort of Fairfield's Tyquan Goode during Thursday night's game.

George Mason 69, IUPUI-Fort Wayne 51: At Memphis, Lamar Butler scored 16 points to lead five George Mason players in double figures.

California 78, UC Riverside 61: At Berkeley, Calif., reserve David Paris had career highs of 16 points and eight rebounds for Cal, which will play Friday night against Saint Mary's.

Saint Mary's 67, Belmont 58: At Berkeley, Calif., Jonathan Sanders scored 17 points and Daniel Kickert had 16 points, a career-high 13 rebounds and three blocks for the Gaels.

Exhibitions

No. 8 Connecticut 90, Bryant 65: At Hartford, Conn., Josh Boone had 20 points, eight rebounds and five blocks in Connecticut's final warmup for its Nov. 20 opener against Buffalo.

No. 10 Arizona 105, Sonoma St. 80: At Tucson, Ariz., Arizona's Channing Fryer scored 24 points and Mustafa Shakur added 22 points and 10 rebounds.

UCLA 80, Monterrey Tech 48: At Los Angeles, Aaron Afflalo scored 17 points, one of four players to score in double figures for UCLA.

Arizona St. 93, Alberta-Edmonton 47: At Tempe, Ariz., Ike Diogu scored 26 points for the Sun Devils, including 17 in the first half.

Kansas State 88, Pittsburg St. 69: At Manhattan, Kan., Fred Petre scored 30 points as Kansas State beat Division II Pittsburg State.

O'Brien sues Ohio State

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Former Ohio State basketball coach Jim O'Brien sued the school, claiming he is owed the \$3.4 million remaining on his contract because his firing violated terms of the pact.

O'Brien was fired in June after athletic director Andy Geiger said the coach admitted paying \$6,000 to a former recruit. O'Brien's lawsuit filed Wednesday claims the school owes him money because the NCAA didn't find he broke the association's rules.

General managers tie 15-15 on replay

The Associated Press

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. — No further review necessary: Baseball has finished looking at instant replay, for now.

Big league general managers split 15-15 Thursday on whether to keep exploring replay, a straw poll taken following a postseason in which umpires reversed almost every wrong call.

"Based on that vote, it's unlikely we'll do anything substantive in the next year to pursue instant replay," MLB executive vice president Sandy Alderson said.

The NFL, NBA and NHL use some form of replay. Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig is adamantly against it and can veto any proposal to give it a try.

"I understand that vote today, that there are people who want to keep looking at it," Selig said. "I'm not afraid to change. You never say never."

"But the humanness of the umpires is part of the game. I'm satisfied where it is. I just don't think it would be a positive addition."

Replay opponents got a boost in October when umpires overturned two rulings in Game 6 of the AL Championship Series. TV gave fans a clear view of what happened — once the six umpires huddled, it came into focus for them, too, and Alex Rodriguez was declared out because of interference on one play and Mark Bellhorn got a home run on the other.

"Had they gotten those calls wrong, would there have been more interest in pursuing instant replay? There might've been," Alderson said.

Alderson and umpire supervisor Rich Rickard made a presentation to the GMs on Thursday, showing that nine-inning games were played in an average of 42 hours, 47 minutes, up a minute from 2003.

In something that could someday lead to a speed-up, the Arizona Fall League is experimenting with a rule requiring hitters to keep one foot in the batter's box, rather than stepping out after each pitch. The penalty is an automatic strike, and Alderson said the rule might get a tryout in a low minor league next season.

Alderson said that according to the QuesTec computer system, umpires correctly called more than 92 percent of the calls. And they said that all 68 umpires met the expected standard of at least 90 percent.

Briefs

Japan A-Stars win again

NAGOYA, Japan — San Diego Padres reliever Akinori Otsuka gave up two runs in the bottom of the ninth inning Friday, and the Japanese All-Stars rallied for a 3-2 victory, their third straight victory over the touring major leaguers. The major league stars lead the eight-game series 4-3 heading into the final on Sunday in Tokyo.

Otsuka, who went 7-2 with two saves and a 1.75 ERA for the Padres this season, used to play for the Chunichi Dragons at Nagoya Dome before signing with San Diego. He entered in the ninth with a one-run lead but failed to hold it and took the loss.

Akinori Iwamura of the Yakult Swallows doubled to center off Otsuka to tie the game. Pinch-hitter Michihiro Ogasawara then singled down the third-base line to score Iwamura from second.

Pirates' Torres gets 2-year deal

PITTSBURGH — The two-year contract approved by Pittsburgh Pirates reliever Salomon Torres will pay him \$2.6 million, including a \$200,000 signing bonus.

The Pirates' top setup man will make \$1 million in 2005, a \$250,000 raise from last season, when he was among the NL's most-used relievers. He'll get \$1.4 million in 2006.

Texas signs Brocail

ARLINGTON, Texas — Doug Brocail became the first of this season's 207 free agents to sign, returning to the Texas Rangers on Friday under a \$1 million, one-year contract.

The 37-year-old right-hander was 4-1 with one save and a 4.13 ERA in 43 games with Texas last season.

Berkman undergoes surgery

HOUSTON — Houston Astros outfielder Lance Berkman underwent surgery Friday on his injured right knee, with recovery time expected to be 5-6 months.

Berkman, 28, tore the anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee while playing flag football during a church-related function after the season.

The three-time NL All-Star hit .316 this season with 30 homers and 106 RBIs last season.



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Class A Taegu, Class AA Yokota lock up best tourney finishes by DODDS teams

Stars and Stripes

For the third year in a row, Taegu American of South Korea had to settle for third place. The best Yokota of Japan could do was fifth place.

Still, both teams had the distinction of finishing highest among Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Pacific teams in their respective Far East High School Girls Volleyball Tournaments.

By beating Seoul American in five sets on Friday in the Class AA Tournament on Okinawa, Yokota earned the right to play for fifth place on Saturday against the American School in Japan. It was a happy ending for a Panthers team that finished 15th last year.

Taegu lost a heartbreaking five-set match to defending champion Faith Academy of the Philippines in the Class A Tournament at Sasebo Naval Base, Japan. Notre Dame of Guam then dethroned the Vikings in a five-set final.

"I feel like we raised the bar for DODDS schools next year because we placed so high" in a tournament long dominated by Tokyo international and Guam public and private schools, Yokota senior outside hitter Jonica Childress said.

Defending champ Academy of Our Lady was to face George Washington in an all-Guam final Saturday. Academy aimed to extend its Pacific record to nine Class AA titles; the Geckos were going for their first title since 1984.

Yokota rebounded strongly from the 2003 tournament in which it finished next to the bottom, said Childress, one of five players back from last year's squad.

"Our team had better chemistry," she said after the Panthers' 20-25, 25-16, 11-25, 25-21, 15-12 win over Seoul American.

"We always bring it back together, we talk to each other, work together and keep it cool."

Things didn't look good for Yokota in the third set. The 2003 team might have collapsed, the players said; this year's group bonded and turned the match around.



"If we didn't get down on ourselves, we knew we could do our best," senior middle blocker Shawna Vitarbo said.

The Panthers rebounded, but the Falcons' vaunted offense disappeared.

"The last real strength we have, of course, was our defense," Seoul American coach Denny Hilgar said. "Our offense was lacking, the passes were bad, the sets crumbled down. Offense got us this far. It just wasn't there."

No matter what Yokota did on Saturday, the Panthers feel they redeemed themselves this season.

"Everybody will be in the best mood because we came down here and gave it all we had," Childress said.

Taegu American coach David Hagader expressed frustration after his team came up short of its expected goal.

"Last year, there were clearly two teams (Morrison Christian Academy and Faith Academy) above everybody else," Hagader said. "This year, we had a chance. It could have gone either way."

Eventual champion Notre Dame knocked the Warriors into the losers bracket 24-26, 25-20, 25-20, 25-21, then the Vikings finished them off 26-25, 25-18, 25-20, 22-25, 15-6.

"Our serves haunted us a little bit," Hagader said. "They (Faith and Notre Dame) outplayed us at the right times. Notre Dame kept getting it back over the net. Faith played good, smart ball. They took advantage of open spots, kept us off balance."

Still, Hagader felt proud of what the team accomplished this season, including a third-place Korean-American Interscholastic Activities Conference season finish and a KAIAC tournament runner-up trophy.

"The talent was there from the first practice," he said. "They should all be proud. More so than I've seen in other sports, they grew as a team and as human beings; they matured a lot, good quality character came through."

Tennis: Pusan claims first title since 1994

TENNIS, FROM PAGE 46

It was Pusan American's first Far East championship since winning the Class A girls basketball title in 1994.

Bruce Barker, who coached that team and is now Osan American's coach, remembers teaching the Edwards siblings as elementary school students.

"I wanted them to do well," he said. "I'm happy for them."

Not so happy was the singles championship won by Lopes, who beat senior teammate Lori Kanikkeberg 6-2, 6-2 in a lackluster match after the two had lost the girls doubles crown 7-5, 1-6, 8-6 to Amanda Reiff and Jessica Guertin of Osan American, South Korea.

"We were working so hard as a team, and here you're having to work against your teammate," Lopes said.

"I really wanted the doubles, and I wanted her (Lopes) to take the singles," Kanikkeberg said.

But the joy of capturing the team championship after finishing a distant second last year helped suppress any disappointment, especially for Lopes, who transfers to Arizona in December.

"This is a good way for me to exit," she said. Kadena scored 55 points, outlasting Seoul American, which totalled 53. In so doing, coach Hoa Nguyen won his second Far East team title in as many seasons; his Panthers won the Class AA girls soccer tournament last April 30 at Camp Zama, Japan.

"The kids believe in me as a coach and I have good support from parents and the school administration," Nguyen said. "We did very well. We did what we set out to do, did what we needed to do. They stick together. We set our goal at the beginning of the year to reach that milestone. It took four years of struggle, but we did it."

Along with Kanikkeberg and Lopes, Nguyen must bid farewell to graduating seniors Travis Dang, Kamen Christin and Taren Fitzgerald.

"It's going to be a rebuilding year next year," he said. "This was the team. It's an emotional time for me. I'm about to cry."

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SPORTS



Rained-out qualifying lets
closest Nextel Cup pursuers
lead field in Darlington, Page 40

Inrest in Happy Valley

Another losing season at Penn State elicits calls of 'Joe must go'

BY DAN GELSTON
The Associated Press

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — The coaching legacy and goodwill that Joe Paterno proudly built for five decades at Penn State are slowly unraveling with each humbling loss.

The days of scanning the schedule for gimme victories are over — just ask Big Ten foe Purdue and Northwestern, which this season got their first victories in Happy Valley.

Paterno hardly needs his thick, smoky glasses to see he's losing more than games: Thousands of seats at Beaver Stadium have been empty for recent home games, and Paterno is no longer impervious to the criticism routinely reserved for coaches with lesser pedigrees or without repu-

tations as community patricians. The message is clear — and getting louder — from the grumbling dissenters: Joe must go.

The situation has become sensitive. A Pittsburgh radio station admitted Thursday to starting a rumor that Paterno had retired, yet Penn State still issued an official response.

"Statements made on a Pittsburgh radio station earlier today regarding the future of Penn State football coach Joe Paterno are unfounded and untrue," the statement said.

Paterno, whose 341-116-3 record puts him second in career victories in Division I-A behind only Florida State's Bobby Bowden, is listening. Just don't expect him to decide his future based on the whims of fickle fans.

"If you think that I am going to back out of it because I am intimidated, you are wrong. If you think I am going to stay when I think I am not doing a good job, you're wrong," he said. "Those things have to develop, they have

to evolve. Right now, I think we can get this thing done and do a good job."

The numbers give little reason for hope.

The Nittany Lions (2-7, 0-6) are the only Big Ten team without a conference victory entering Saturday's game at Indiana. They have lost six consecutive games, including a school record-tying three straight at home.

Penn State has four losing seasons in the past five years and the senior class will leave having played in only one bowl game.

When asked about his future, the 77-year-old Paterno often turns cantankerous, using his 55 years on the staff

as a sense of entitlement to dismiss his critics.

His determination (or stubbornness?), his unyielding belief (or hope?), and his four-year contract that will keep him on the school's payroll past his 80th birthday give little reason to expect anyone but the coach affectionately known as JoePa will be on the sideline next year.

"I am looking to get this program back to where it belongs and if I can't get it done in a certain amount of time, I have to sit back and say, 'Hey, turn it over to some other guy and can I help?' That is the way it will be," he said.

And that time is?
"I haven't got the slightest idea," he said. "I don't see any reason to say, 'I'm going to get out of here this year, next year or what year.' I don't mean that to be cocky, stubborn or anything like that. I am just trying to do what is right."

What to do with the fading coach seems to be tearing at the conscience of the Penn State community. Has Paterno, who's donated millions to the school in addition to his football success, earned the right to decide his own fate? Or should university officials give him a nudge out the door?

SEE UNREST ON PAGE 39

Diminishing returns

Joe Paterno has won 341 games in Division I-A. The second most any football coach. But his teams have been in a downward spiral lately. Here are the results of the past 10 Penn State teams, with final AP Top 25 ranking in parentheses.

2004	.....2-7
2003	.....3-9
2002	.....9-4 (15)
2001	.....5-6
2000	.....5-7
1999	.....10-3 (11)
1998	.....9-3 (17)
1997	.....9-3 (16)
1996	.....11-2 (7)
1995	.....9-3 (15)

Joe Paterno's
Nittany Lions
are the only
Big Ten team
without a conference victory
this season.

AP



No. 11 Florida State beats N.C. State in a display of offensive futility

Page 39



Mississippi State gets a scare from Fairfield as basketball season starts on campus

Page 45



Champions crowned in Far East tennis, volleyball tournaments

Pages 46, 47

Instant replay gets chilly response from MLB

Page 45

